

They (North Alabama) celebrate, and sometimes they might be a little too confident, and we're looking forward to hitting them back.

Senior guard Tom Pestock

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THURSDAY

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E-BOOKS

eReader pilot gives campus new ideas on digital books

By Whitney Keyes
Managing Editor

Northwest, in its 21st year as the Electronic Campus, thought it had the next big thing.

However, despite high hopes for the eReader program, Northwest has decided to go a different direction than originally anticipated.

At the beginning of the trimester, a pilot program was designed to give four classes the Sony eReader to use, instead of a hard-copy textbook.

The device works similarly to an iPod — students download all their textbooks onto it, can carry it anywhere and choose from hundred of reading options.

The pilot program focused on four individual classes: One section each of Intercultural Communication, Introduction to Philosophy, American History Survey and Program Planning and Agricultural Education.

Assistant to the President Paul Klute worked with a planning committee to design a feedback system that focused on students', teachers' and publisher's thoughts. Three meetings were to be held, one a month in November, October and December.

"After the first (meeting with student eReader users) it was apparent the eReaders weren't going to be a viable option like we originally thought," Klute said.

The electronic book industry, Klute said, is working toward being what Northwest and other users need it to be, but hasn't quite made it.

The Sony model Northwest used does not have a search mode, color or the ability to show images.

"The idea of all your books in an easy-to-read, lightweight format is great, but it definitely needs some work," Lyndsey Stewart said.

Stewart was involved in the pilot through her Intercultural Communication class, a fairly textbook-heavy course, she said.

She enjoyed reading fiction on the device, where she could read straight through and not worry about flipping pages.

See E-BOOKS on A5

Georgia-based firm to aid presidential search

The University took another step toward selecting its next president this week.

On Tuesday the Board of Regents announced it had selected search firm Jon McRae and Associates Inc. of Atlanta to help the institution find and screen candidates to succeed President Dean Hubbard when he retires July 31, 2009 after 25 years.

"Our search partner ... will provide the professionalism and guidance our process will require in the months ahead. I believe the committee will be comfortable with our search firm selection," Board of Regents President Bill Loch said in a statement.

Four representatives from the firm will work with the regents and the University's own search committee, comprised of both campus and Maryville representatives, to develop criteria for advertising the job and recruiting candidates.

A spokeswoman for Jon McRae and Associates Inc. said the organization focuses on higher education presidential searches and will likely use its lists of national contacts and publications like "The Chronicle of Higher Education" to spread the word about the position.

The next step is an initial meeting between the firm representatives, regents and campus search committee, which could take place before Northwest's winter break begins.

Loch said the regents hope to select a new president by the end of April 2009.

MHS FOOTBALL



photo by sath cook | chief photographer

SENIOR RUNNING BACK Adam Mattson follows his blocks to a first down early in the first quarter of Saturday's loss to Clark County.

'Hounds fall just short

Spoofhounds lose to Clark County in state championship

By Christopher Woodland
Community Sports Editor

When Maryville and Clark County stepped onto the Edward Jones Home turf, most people expected a high scoring affair. What resulted was a 10-0 defensive strife.

The Spoofhounds and Indians entered the Class 2 State Championship game averaging a combined 30 points per game, but managed just one touchdown each as Clark Co. prevented Maryville from taking home its second state championship.

"I figured there would be more scoring," Maryville head coach Chris Holt said. "I think this is the fastest defense

we've seen all year — both teams were completely gassed."

After Clark Co. kicker Kolt Kiger kicked a 23-yard field goal to give Clark a 10-0 lead early in the fourth quarter, Maryville began its final scoring threat of the game.

Maryville took 16 plays and nearly seven minutes to move inside the Indians' 10-yardline on a drive that began its own 20.

On a fourth down from the Clark Co. five-yard line with less than five minutes remaining, Holt called upon his all-state running back Adam Mattson to pick up the two needed yards.

"That was an easy decision," Holt said. "We were out there and these guys

wanted to win — and to be honest, if I'm going to lose the game I'm going to give it to 32 (Mattson)."

Mattson plowed ahead for one yard before Clark Co. linebacker Nathan Alderman brought him down short of the first-down.

The 'Hounds nearly broke several long gains during the game, but every time senior running backs Mattson or John Farmer appeared to have a game-breaking play a Clark Co. defender drug them down from behind.

"There were a lot of times when we got Matty or Farmer on the edge and they got caught from behind, and those are usually touchdowns for us," Holt said. "It is frustrating, but it's not supposed to be

easy at this point in the season."

The longest play of the game for either team came in the second quarter when Mattson broke into the Indians' secondary and seemed like he would outrun the defense like he had so many times this season. Instead, Clark Co. quarterback/defensive back — than Allen chases him at the 22-yard line for a 50-yard gain.

The 'Hounds also didn't score in the first half for the first time all season despite Mattson out-rushing the entire Clark Co. team by himself 125-124 in the first 24 minutes.

With the Indians keeping the 'Hounds' offense out of the end zone, Maryville's defense rose to the challenge.

See FOOTBALL on A12

PRESIDENT HUBBARD: 25 YEARS

Culture prepares for future

By Evan Young
Editor in Chief

This is the second part of a two-part series that chronicles President Dean Hubbard's most significant contribution to Northwest, the Culture of Quality — its creation, implementation and future.

When Dean Hubbard became Northwest's president in 1984, the institution was about to enter its eighth decade of education, and it was, arguably, already a quality campus.

A number of positive things — enrollment at 5,000 students for

the first time in 1969, university status in 1972 and an unanticipated but much-lauded aesthetic campus makeover after a 1979 fire in the Administration Building — came long before Hubbard paid his first visit to Maryville.

So when he arrived on the scene and, in 1984, led the university it needed to pursue constant evaluation and improvement in order to always put students and stakeholders first — a "culture of quality" — the reaction he got was a mix of both support and indignation.

See QUALITY on A5



photo by kayleen vande kamp | tower yearbook

PRESIDENT DEAN HUBBARD speaks during a reception in honor of the University winning its fourth Missouri Quality Award on Nov. 24.

PROFILE

Alumnus to speak at commencement

By Shane Sherwood
Senior Reporter

Choosing Northwest was easy for one graduate. He liked the University letterhead.

"You can tell I like PR (public relations)," Neil Neumeyer said. "First impressions mean a lot to me."

Neumeyer graduated from Northwest in 1997. He was recently selected by President Dean Hubbard to give the winter 2009 commencement speech.

In August 2005, Neumeyer was asked to speak at the freshman convocation. Now he is gearing up to give a commencement speech.

"After receiving a standing ovation from the 1,400 people who were there, President Hubbard probably thought I wouldn't give a traditional commencement address," Neumeyer said. "I'll try not to let him down. Plus, I'm just hoping I don't get Northwest's name wrong like Carl Peterson did last spring."

The president chooses the commencement speaker. Neumeyer is an alumnus who has done an outstanding job in his field, University Relations

Vice President Mary Ann Lowary said.

Growing up on a farm near Bennington, Neb., Neumeyer's parents raised him to have a strong work ethic, he said. He is the youngest of four. This made him want to stand out. Walking bean fields was his first job.

"Since all my older siblings got to do it first, I couldn't wait until I was old enough to walk to beans with the big kids," Neumeyer said.

Neumeyer went to school in the same building from kindergarten through the 12th grade. He graduated with 42 in his senior class.

His father died on Neumeyer's 11th birthday while on a family vacation in Seattle.

See NEUMEYER on A5



Neil Neumeyer

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BRIEFS

Feaste celebrates 35th year of entertainment

Northwest will hold the 35th annual Yuletide Feast, a Renaissance-themed holiday celebration featuring more than 50 musicians, singers, actors, lords, ladies and royal persons in full regalia.

This year's feast will begin at 6:30 p.m. Friday and 7 p.m. Saturday in the J.W. Jones Student Union Ballroom.

The department of music sponsors the event each year to offer a glimpse of the Christmas season that was celebrated in England more than 400 years ago.

Yuletide Feast tickets are \$27.95 per person and may be purchased at the music/art office on the first floor of the Olive DeLuce Fine Arts Building.

Tickets may also be ordered by calling at 562-1315.

Career Services offers graduates job search help

Northwest seniors who have do not have a post-graduation plan can use Career Services for walk-in hours for seniors.

The walk-in hours are for seniors who would like last minute assistance with their job search.

Walk-in hours will be 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. No appointment is necessary and those who participate will be helped in a first-come first-serve basis.

During the walk-in hours staff members will critique resumes, cover letters and job search strategy.

For more information, contact Rosalie Weathermon at 562-1455.

Public invited to contra dance, lessons provided

Maryville Contra Dancers is a social dance group that combines traditional square dancing and contra. Contra dancers meet 7 p.m. tonight and Dec. 11 at the Nodaway County Senior Center. There is a suggested donation of \$2. No experience is required and all dancers are taught. Partners are welcome but not required. For more information about Contra Dance contact Jerome Grisanti at 562-0858.

CAMPUS PROFILE



photo by matt newittiger | chief photographer

NORTHWEST STUDENT LAURA Palermo battled with a rare cancer in high school and has been in remission for six years. Palermo is a public relations major and plans to work for a not-for-profit children's cancer organization to raise money to help find a cure for cancer.

Cancer survivor to use major to help spread awareness, find cure

By Kiley Swopes
Missourian Reporter

A Northwest student had more of a chance of getting struck by lightning than to get such a rare form of cancer.

Junior Laura Palermo was diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma in the spring of 2002.

As Lindsay Palermo rubbed her sister Laura's shoulders, she discovered a lump on the collar bone and joked about how her sister had cancer, Laura said.

"It was not something I thought could happen to someone that close to me," older sister Lindsay said. "I said it before I thought about it."

An X-ray and CT scan were taken and a mass was found pushing on the wind pipe.

After being rushed to Children's Mercy in Kansas City for further testing, a biopsy was taken and the results came back as Hodgkin's Lymphoma, Laura said.

"We got a call from the doctor saying the lumps in her neck were serious and she needed a biopsy," younger sister Allison said. "From there, we knew it was cancerous."

With a 70 percent chance of survival, Laura went through six months of chemotherapy and one month of radiation and now has been cancer free for almost six years, she said.

"Besides losing my hair, I gained over 50 pounds, threw up every day and did not have energy to move," Laura said. "From the massive doses of Prednisone (a steroid that shrinks tumors in massive doses) I lost all blood flow

to my left hip causing me to have a total hip replacement at age 16."

Until finding out she was in remission, Laura always thought the cancer was going to come back. She would get so nervous before standard check-ups in fear of finding more cancer that medication was used to calm her nerves, Allison said.

"I go in once a year to have simple blood work and a chest X-ray done," Laura said. "I am now in the search for a new oncologist because once you turn 21, you can no longer go to the children's hospital."

As a public relations major, Laura has plans to work for a not-for-profit children's cancer organization to help raise money and awareness to someday cure cancer, she said.

COMMUNITY

PROFILE

Local pastor prepares for busiest season of all

By Shane Sherwood
Senior Reporter

The holidays do not always come bearing gifts and togetherness. Some people feel the complete opposite, but for those people, there are pastors to help.

First Christian Church Pastor Dale Stewart started at the church in 2000, but only as interim pastor. It was not until 2006 when he would be full-time minister of the congregation.

Christmas has a different meaning to some people, Stewart said. It is not always happy for everyone.

"During the Christmas season, I also stand alongside people who think Christmas is not a happy time," Stewart said. "It can bring up what some people have lost."

The holidays have many meaning to Stewart. The main meaning is celebrating the birth of God's son. It is also a day to celebrate being loved by God.

During the holiday season, Stewart

tries to slow down and stay calm and not get caught up in the busyness of it all.

"You have to work on not getting caught up in the hectic time," he said. "You have to work on making yourself slow down in the midst of something fast."

Stewart grew up in a small Kansas town of 3,000 people. He had two older sisters. His father worked for the railroad. His mother was a bookkeeper. His family was active in the local Christian church.

"My dad was an elder and my mom worked with the Sunday school," Stewart said.

Stewart attended elementary and high school in Kansas. When he graduated, he attended undergraduate school at Phillips University in Enid, Okla.

While at Phillips University, he earned his bachelor of science in sociology and history.

"I planned on being an attorney, but I went into law enforcement

instead," Stewart said. "I was a police officer and detective in suburban Kansas City for 6 years."

While attending church in Kansas as a youth, he grew up in the church and preached on youth Sundays.

Being active in the church caught elder members' eyes, Stewart said.

"Growing up I was told I ought to become a minister, but it didn't seem exciting," he said. "I decided to go into law enforcement instead."

While growing up, his grandfather told him stories about his time in law enforcement. His grandfather was a police officer.

"This was when I knew I wanted to go into law enforcement," Stewart said.

During his senior year in college, Stewart married and had two children. After he graduated he moved to Ohio when he started to think about going back into ministry. He also had his third child while in Ohio.

"I gradually came to the realization that I wasn't doing what I was

created to do," he said. "So I went back to school to become a minister."

To become a minister, Stewart attended Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas. During his time there, he was a full-time student, father and full-time minister at a small church.

Stewart divorced his first wife, but remarried a little over a year ago. He married Terry Stewart, the associate director in the financial aid office at Northwest.

Meeting Terry was interesting, Stewart said. He was involved in Optimist International, and Terry attended occasionally.

"When we first met, she thought I was a used car salesman," Stewart said.

While training in ministry, Terry became president of the Optimist International group. They had dinner together with friends, and then the group invited

See STEWART on A5

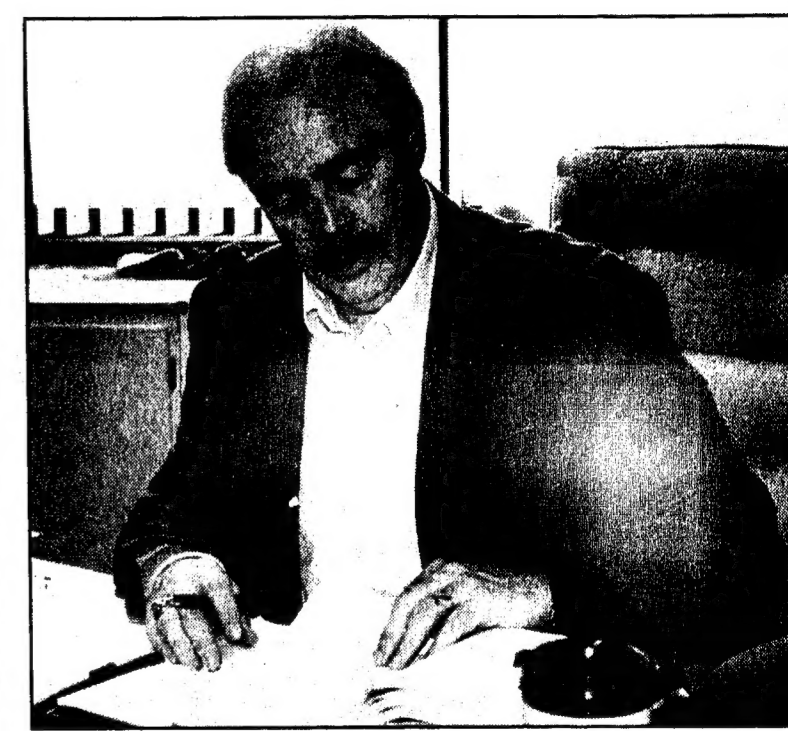


photo by melissa watson | missourian photographer

PASTOR DALE STEWART works on his Sunday sermon for the First Christian Church.

LOCAL BUSINESS



photo by dominic genetti | missourian reporter
RANDY AND STEPHANIE Sledge own Metals Edge Expo, a tattoo, bike and skateboard shop on the edge of town.

Couple's store draws from variety of hobbies: biking, skateboarding, tattooing

By Dominic Genetti
Missourian Reporter

In a room filled with bicycles, display cases and skateboards mounted on the wall Randy Sledge looks a wooden cash drawer as Queen's "Bohemian Rhapsody" blares from a nearby desktop computer.

At first glance you may think you're in a bike shop, but the black leather dentist chair in the back of the room means there's much more offered than tire and chain repairs.

Sledge owns Metals Edge Expo, a tattoo, bicycle and skate shop on East First Street in Maryville along with his wife, Stephanie. The couple opened the shop in 2003 after purchasing Crank & Pedal, a long time Maryville bike store.

"We first started out as a tattoo

and piercing shop and at that time we decided that we would incorporate skateboards," Stephanie said.

Bells give a weak jingle as the front door opens.

Customers boasting all types of interests make their way into the shop on a daily basis. Some have bikes and no tattoos, others tattoos and no bikes, then there are those who have both.

As convenient as it may be to have the many options offered at the store, running Metals Edge is no easy task.

"It is kind of difficult to incorporate some of the market sometimes," Stephanie said sipping a cup of coffee.

"The tattooing side of the business is really personal; the majority of our business that get tattoos usually

get tattoos for a sentimental reason or a memorial, something that means something to them.

"You have to separate the tattooing."

The primary tattoo artist at the shop, Randy used to have a career as a chef at several different restaurants. His recipes once consisted of oil and seasonings, but today his ingredients include ink and human skin.

Becoming a tattoo artist was always an aspiration.

"At that time, there was no discussion about doing all this but it was always in the background," Randy said.

Requests are currently high for barbed wire tattoos, but before work even begins, Randy talks things over with the customer going over the design and location of the tattoo.

Most importantly, he says, the discussion includes the question, "Are you going to be happy with this in 20 years?"

Starting the business was not easy. Stephanie was studying business management at Northwest while working full time at the shop and Randy worked full time at Federal Mogul during the day and ran the shop at night.

They weren't strangers to the business ownership world; Randy and Stephanie owned a coffee shop in Boone, Iowa before moving to Maryville.

"We opened our business with not very much money," Stephanie said. "We just kept working at it where Randy could come and work full time. It gets stressful at times, you just have to keep going back to the

drawing board, keep coming up with strategies to work through it."

Both Randy and Stephanie work full-time now, but given the current status of the national economy, they still have their troubles, especially in summer when Northwest students leave and in the winter season when bike riding is low.

"Our business is still struggling," Stephanie said. "We're working on ideas, trying to expand, we've got the business plan finished and we're working on that right now."

Despite hard times on a national level, the Sledges still enjoy their business and its growth. With big smiles, Randy and Stephanie turn and look at each other.

"We love what we do," Stephanie said. "We love selling bikes."

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OUR VIEW

Graduate job seekers should keep minds open

It's that time of the trimester again: when we give a hearty send-off to the lucky few expecting graduation.

For some of the staff at the Missourian, graduation is still a far off event, somewhere in the hazy future. For many, though, it's a little closer to home. From those of us also looking nervously into the murky future, be reassured that you are not alone. From our graduating seniors to you, here's a little advice.

Start searching early and keep at it

Hopelily you've already started applying for jobs. If you haven't landed the right one yet, don't lose heart. At the same time, don't put it off.

It could be easy to slip into complacency. For the first time in a long time, you won't have to answer to anyone. That kind of freedom can go to your head.

The best advice is to treat a job search like a full time job. Get up early. Spend nine to five looking through want ads, brushing up your resume, writing cover letters, sending out resumes and making follow-up phone calls. If you sleep in past noon, than that might only give you a few hours before most offices close up and personnel directors go home. Use your time to your best advantage.

Look for jobs off the beaten track

Look at the job market realistically. Think about what kind of things people will always need. If you're an artist, now may not be the best time to decide to try to live off your art. That doesn't mean you can't find practical applications for your talents. Design logos for your neighbor's small business, or create cool letterheads for your friends' resumes. The word for this is freelance, and it can be very lucrative.

The only trouble with freelance is it can be hard to get started, and the work is not terribly steady. So start with your friends and family, or put up fliers in coffee shops or on craigslist.com. You can find a market for pretty much any skill. Took five years of French? Try tutoring. Have at least a high school degree or some college? Substitute teach.

Don't look down your nose

Remember, no job is too small for consideration. That doesn't mean you have to lower your standards. Just try expanding your expectations. That corner office, \$500,000-a-year job with a company car is not going to come lay itself at your feet.

Be willing to do almost anything. Employers admire that. No one wants to hire some snoot-nosed graduate who's too good to pitch in, doesn't make copies and would die before they fetched coffee. Nobody is too good to fetch coffee. Employers like people with team spirits, people who are willing to work hard and get the job done. At no point should you compromise your morals or your dignity. But nobody reaps the rewards without sacrifice.

Consider jobs that maybe are technically beneath your new education. Everybody has to start somewhere. Try a job that's not your dream one, especially if you really like the company and see your dream job somewhere in its ranks.

This is not coming from a person who has experience on their side. This is merely the advice we have: the real world from our view.

Have opinions? Want them heard?

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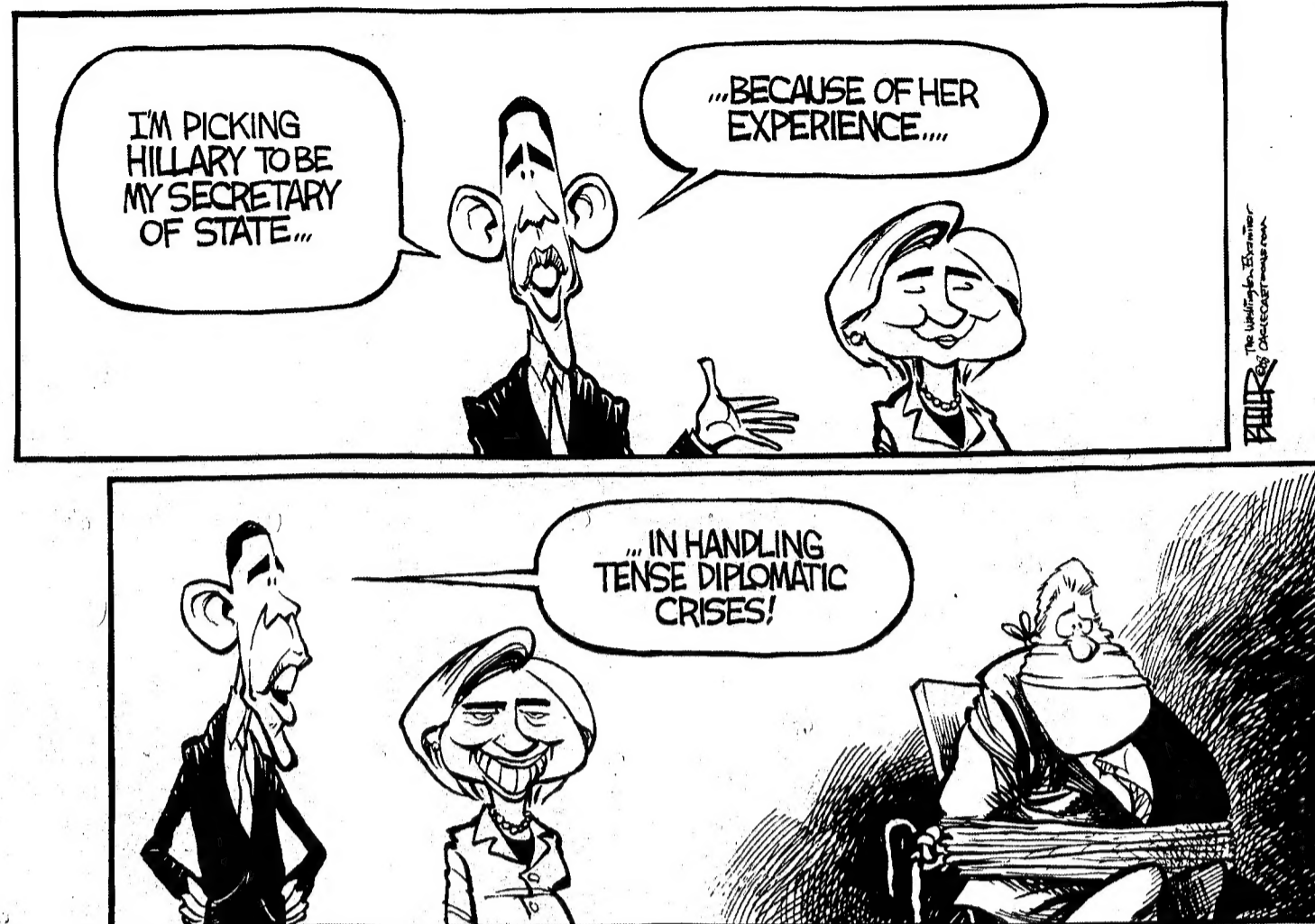
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OPINION



MY VIEW

GOP virtually silenced with new government

The U.S. will definitely see change, whether it's because President-Elect Obama will soon be in the Oval Office or that his surrounding forces have an unbelievable majority of Democrats over Republicans. There is no doubt America will be a Democratic nation for at least the next four years; not only have the people chosen a liberal congress, but Obama has also selected a Democratic cabinet.

The traditional pattern of the congressional seats swinging in the way of the president-elect hasn't been this extraordinary since Ronald Reagan's presidency. It almost seems as if the system of checks and balances is off-kilter. The U.S. is so completely Democratic that the Republicans barely have a voice



Darleen Denno
Contributing Columnist

able to block votes on legislation. In theory, this could give the Democrats free-reign in the Senate.

typical outcome of a party's seats to an extreme level. Could Obama's presidency be balanced if there was more balance between Democratic and Republican seats in the Senate? Would it matter?

If Minnesota and Georgia elected a Democrat as their Senator, they would control the 60 seats needed for a filibuster-proof majority. This means the minority party would not be able to block votes on legislation.

Having this much of a majority in Congress could provide him with too much power. Obama's challenge will be whether or not to abuse the power. However, it doesn't seem he's too concerned with balancing the parties. His cabinet is also nearly all Democrat. He recently chose Susan E. Rice as a nominee for the U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Along with Rice, he has selected Democrat Hillary Clinton as Secretary of State. He intends to make Democrat Timothy Geithner a nominee for the U.S. Secretary of Treasury.

Although his choices seem one-sided, maybe a majority of Democrats is what the U.S. needs. Hopefully he won't abuse any power that a liberal congress and cabinet will give him, but no prejudgments should be made. Once January hits, America is in for a ride.

MY VIEW

Thailand's king should provide unity during political turmoil

Thailand is one of the most recent countries to display a large sense of political uncertainty that seems to be rampant these days.

After the leading political party, the People's Power Party, was found guilty of fraud in the December 2007 elections, the Constitutional Court of Thailand has not only dissolved the governing party, but also removed the prime minister from politics for the next five years.

This political uncertainty is not new to Thailand by any means. A new constitution came in 2007, due to the nation's former situation in 2006, in which the then-prime minister was accused of corruption and abuse of power, resulting in the seizing of power by the military.

One would think this would be a positive result of an effective government. However, this is not entirely the case.

This ruling made by the Constitutional Court has led to a popular belief it was merely a "judicial coup," dividing Thailand even further with uncertainty, leaving room for whispers that it could even result in a civil war.

But, as always, let's take a step back and review the government



Kathleen Wilmes
Contributing Columnist

of Thailand to garner a better understanding of the current situation, and perhaps allow for a viewing of actions that could prevent a greater escalation in this political crisis.

Thailand is a constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary base. The head of state is the king, and the role of head of government is filled by the prime minister. As in the case of most governments of this form, it allows for a split executive, leaving the people of the country relying on the prime minister for political direction, and the king for legitimacy in the country as well as support in times of crisis.

The legislative branch, or the National Assembly, is bicameral, and split between the House of Representatives and the Senate. The prime minister as well as the cabinet, or Council of Ministers, is to be selected from members of the House of Representatives.

With a structure like this, in which the governing executive body

arises from the legislative branch, and not from split branches of government as in the case of the U.S., the prime minister and the Council of Ministers is required to meet a confidence vote. In Thailand, the ministers themselves are required to fill the burden of individual accountability from the House of Representatives. Collective accountability, or accountability of the entire Cabinet of Ministers, is derived from the National Assembly as a whole.

The judicial branch, as always, is charged with maintaining the laws and constitution of the country.

Instead of spending any more time discussing this portion of the Thai government, I would rather analyze a different part that is often overlooked, that of the monarchy.

The King has quite a bit of formal power given to him by the constitution, although in practice it is scaled back quite a bit from the Cabinet of Ministers, most notably

the Prime Minister, and the legislative branch itself. However, the ruling monarch has another form of power, and that is informal.

The King provides support to the people of Thailand in times of need. This reaches beyond the legitimacy of a state. In times of crisis, the ruling family is to step forward and, in a sense, provide a crutch for the people, an increase in moral.

For example, the king is to be celebrating his 81st birthday. This is the perfect time for him to give support to his people and lend advice to officials to lead the government out of political turmoil. Several times in the past he has been called to give advice to resolve conflicts. The king is respected by most everybody in Thailand, including both sides of this current situation, and because of this, he can provide a sense of unity.

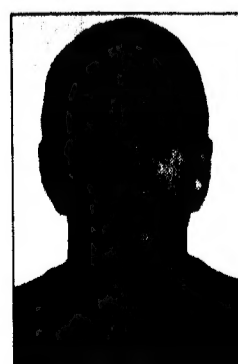
In cases such as this, we are given a perfect example of the role of the monarchy in a modern era that is filled with parliamentary-based governments. Hopefully this will also lead to a perfect example of an effective demonstration in power of head of state.

What does Christmas mean to you?



"A time to do family traditions."

Amber Cordell
Deciding



"Time to get together with your family."

Robb Waters
Deciding



"The birth of Jesus and hanging out with my family."

Cassidy Caulkins
Agronomy



"Happiness."

Kelly Kell
Social Science



"A huge break."

Samantha Kline
Pre-Law

QUALITY: Not all Bearcats on board with Hubbard's initial proposal

Continued from A1

It was a progressive approach to doing things, Hubbard told the campus it needed to view most quality as a "receding horizon," something that should be pursued but could never be reached.

He and his administration outlined what they felt were Northwest's core values. Using those values, they sifted through more than 200 recommendations from faculty, staff and students to create a list of 47 goals. Those goals included several things that remain a part of campus today, such as senior seminar and living/learning environments in the residence halls.

"It led to a lot of change all at once," Hubbard said.

At first, some people weren't too pleased.

"The Culture of Quality was a hard thing to understand," said Bob Bush, who has served on the past three Northwest administrations. "They (faculty and staff) interpreted the conversation as 'I don't have quality' and took it as a personal attack."

Bush said he thought the work ethic had been strong at the institution, even when he was a student in the 1950s. Yet Hubbard was asking faculty and staff to think outside of the box in order to be empowered with the desire to improve, he said.

"What can you do to add quality to a quality program?" Bush said of Hubbard's pitch.

Another reason for the initial resistance was the Culture's implications of more teamwork, something that wasn't as present on campus back then as it is today, said Educational Leadership professor Frank

Grispino, who taught at Northwest for 43 years.

"There was a lot less camaraderie... not a lot of regard for what was going on with the University as a whole," Grispino said. "Some people were suspicious of it (Culture of Quality), and a small minority of people didn't accept it."

But Hubbard remained persistent; he knew, despite all of Northwest's success there was still a somewhat difficult relationship between campus leaders and employees.

He believed the Culture of Quality was needed to let faculty and staff know their leaders trusted them to make value-driven decisions that would put student success and stakeholder satisfaction on top.

The payoff

A year after the Culture's introduction, much of the animosity had run its course. The University set into motion a \$154,000 plan to coordinate the institution's goals.

Soon they began to take shape — senior seminar, undergraduate research, set faculty office hours — and so did the payoff.

Enrollment began to grow. In the late '80s and early '90s, despite a statewide population decline, Northwest showed some of the highest growth in Missouri.

"By publicizing our achievements, we told the public we were becoming stronger," former Public Relations Officer Bob Henry said. "Parents and students began to see Northwest as an institution of higher quality."

So did the state of Missouri. Hubbard arrived at Northwest at a time when the institution simply didn't stand out enough from other state schools. A very real threat to

close the University was on the table.

Things changed with the Culture of Quality. Though then-Missouri Higher Education Commissioner Sheila Aery went back on her initial pledge not to pursue closing Northwest, Jefferson City lawmakers eventually recognized the school's growth and threw their support behind the Bearcats.

Since then, the Culture of Quality has piqued the interests of both national and international institutions. Administrators have contacted Hubbard, curious to see how they might implement a similar system at their schools. Hubbard said he warns them that, although it's possible, it's a long-term commitment.

"Other universities haven't copied the Electronic Campus, though they could copy it, but they can't copy the Culture of Quality," Hubbard said. "We didn't get up in the morning and have a Culture of Quality. Cultures can be managed but can't be stuffed down someone's throat. Custodians, faculty, administrators... everybody has to be keen on serving students and each other."

The future
On Nov. 20, Northwest accepted its fourth Missouri Quality Award from the Excellence in Missouri Foundation.

Joining the University's other awards in a rotating display case outside the president's office, the MQA represents the Culture of Quality's staying power despite critical voices over the years.

Passing by this case on a seemingly increasing basis are students — students who are cherishing their

time at Northwest and spreading the word to family and friends back home.

"At the end of the day, that's the proof," Hubbard said.

With enrollment on its way toward a 20 percent increase (or more) in five years or so, it appears, at least for now, the quality horizon will continue to recede, and the culture Hubbard facilitated will respond accordingly.

But Hubbard is retiring.

Even as he joined his colleagues to celebrate the latest MQA at an elaborate campus reception, the University's Board of Regents was interviewing search firms to help the institution recruit and interview candidates, and find his successor by April.

So will the Culture of Quality retire along with the president who started it all?

It's a question on the minds of several members of the University's own search committee as well as those who've been around during the system's growth over the past two decades.

In fact, some of them say the fate of Northwest in this next era will depend greatly on whether its 10th president picks up the work where Hubbard left off.

"They're out there, but you've got to work hard to find them," Bush said of appropriate candidates. "I'm just hoping we don't make some 90-degree turn and drive off a cliff."

"President Hubbard isn't gone yet, but I already miss him," Grispino said. "The key to our future growth and survival is our new president and if he or she has the talent and foresight to do that."

E-BOOKS: New ideas seen through pilot program

Continued from A1

but when it came time to study, Stewart wasn't sold on the eReader's capabilities.

Stewart returned to Textbook Services to reclaim her hard-copy textbook and was told she wasn't the first.

Fellow classmate Kasey Lober was also discouraged by the eReader; she attributed most of the problem to a lack of training on how to use them.

She used the device for her study guides the whole trimester, she said, even though it took longer to use the eReader than it would a hard-copy textbook.

"We used it for this last project we did; it was more of a hassle though. People ended up arguing," Lober said. "It's very in with the times, but it's not ready for the school."

Despite the frustration Lober and Stewart experienced with the eRead-

ers, both agree it was worth a try.

"I like that they actually let us try it, we actually got to use it," Stewart said. "Now, because what we said, they aren't using them."

Klute also sees the pilot as a worthwhile attempt. Because of the pilot, the University is now considering eTextbooks. Without this pilot program, Northwest would have overlooked eTextbooks.

For the next trimester, the University is plans to have at least one class per department utilizing an eTextbook program of its choice. Much like faculty decides on the publisher and textbook for each class, the same freedom will be given, within reason, for eTextbooks.

Klute and other faculty are still deciding on which classes will be involved. Other important discussions include cost, implementation of the eTextbooks and laptop distribution.

STEWART: Pastor likes working with people, town

Continued from A3

Stewart to do a presentation for their meeting.

"It went from admiration to friendship to love," Stewart said. It was not until after Stewart moved out of Maryville in 2002 when they ended up getting together.

After his interminable job with First Christian Church ended in June 2002, he served in some churches in Iowa and Missouri. He later moved to Alabama.

Within those years, he left ministry for two years, but decided he wanted to do ministry again.

After finding out the job was still open at First Christian Church, he was invited to do an interview with the church.

"I've always felt a closeness to the congregation," Stewart said. "I was one of the many people interviewed and I was asked to come back."

Ministering does not come with a set in stone agenda, Stewart said. Every day is different. It is hard to say what a typical day for a minister is, he said.

"One of the real joys of doing ministry is you are engaged with many different people in many different ways," Stewart said.

NEUMEYER: Commencement speaker still remembers first visit to Northwest

Continued from A1

"He's the most amazing man I've ever known," he said. "It's not a stretch to say that I honestly hope to be half the man and father that he was."

Neumeyer's mother is one of his closest friends. He names his parents as incredible people.

The only school Neumeyer applied to was Northwest. This was an opportunity for him to stand out by attending an out of state college.

"Beverly Schenkel was my

recruiter from Northwest at the time, and I still remember the room in which we first met," Neumeyer said. "It's fun keeping in touch with her."

Neumeyer graduated from the University in 1998 with a Bachelor of Science in Public Relations.

"Public relations was actually my fifth major because I couldn't decide between marketing or journalism or English or photography," he said. "But in PR, I get to do all of them."

The Monday morning following graduating from the University,

Neumeyer started at Blades and Associates, a middle-sized public relations firm in Overland, Kan.

After four years there, he worked for his current employer, Bernstein-Rein in Kansas City, Mo., which is an independent advertising agency among the top 10 independent agencies in the United States.

"I found the position online one night and I got butterflies the more I read about the position," Neumeyer said. "The more I read the more it fit perfectly with my skills."

Bernstein-Rein is responsible for

inventing the McDonald's Happy Meal and for making Blockbuster a household name, he said. The agency was also Wal-Mart's advertising agency for 32 years.

Neumeyer has been at Bernstein-Rein for seven years. He started in a newly created position, public relations manager, but has since been promoted to Corporate Communications Manager.

While attending Northwest, he found his wife, Leslie. They met at Dunkin' Donuts, which was located in the J.W. Jones Student Union.

Neumeyer has two children, Jackson and Landon.

During the holiday season, Neumeyer and his family are looking forward to a low-key Christmas at home.

"Leslie put a gazillion lights on the Christmas tree and our stockings are hung on the mantle," he said. "We can't wait for Santa to come."

"The students and families will really enjoy him," Lowary said. "He is a young career professional and he will have a lot of great things to say to our graduates."

Neumeyer does not know what he has planned for himself in the future. His dream job is to work outdoors as a landscape nursery.

"I barely know what I'm going to do next week. I certainly have become accustomed to change, so not much surprises me anymore," he said. "I truly believe success is a verb not a noun. Success is something you do, not something you achieve."

This year's winter commencement is 1 p.m. in the Bearcat Arena located in the Lamkin Center on Dec. 12.

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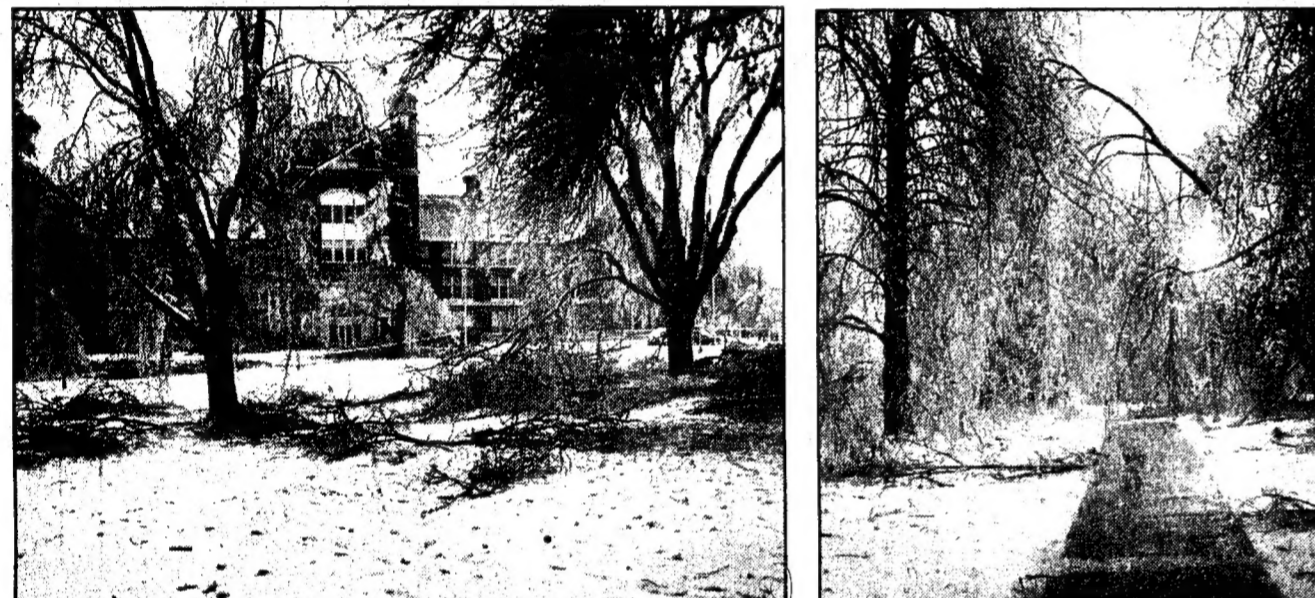
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THE AFTERMATH



LAST DECEMBER MARYVILLE was hit by one of the worst ice storms in recent history. Since then Northwest has attempted to replant and repair damaged trees.



Northwest still recovering from ice 1 year later

By Lisa Houtchens
University News Editor

Dec. 10, 2007, was a day that changed campus.

The day after the ice storm, debris from trees littered northwest Missouri, live power lines lay in yards and the Missouri Arboretum was badly damaged.

Northwest is home to the Missouri Arboretum, which has more than 130 species of trees on the campus.

Even with the damage the storm did to the Missouri Arboretum, it gives Environmental Services the chance to diversify now that there is room on campus for the new species.

One year after the storm, campus has begun to recover, Environmental Services Associated Director Lezlee Johnson said.

There were 79 trees had to be removed after the storm had initially hit. After Environmental Services evaluated the campus, 21 more trees had to be removed.

There are about five to 10 trees that haven't responded well to all of the pruning, Horticulturist and Certified Arborist Adam Stone said.

Environmental Services expects more damage to occur over the next few years, due to the age of the trees and the severity of the damage that occurred last year, he said.

"We do expect more damage to occur later on through the next couple of years because a lot of these older trees were stripped of most of their foliage and it takes a lot of energy for the foliage to come out. Therefore it hurts the tree," Stone said. "Even though the trees looked good this year, next year they might not come in as well."

With President Dean Hubbard's six-phase recovery that included clearing hazardous debris and removing destroyed trees, Tree stump removal was also planned and the fourth and fifth phases were to begin planting

more trees. More than 337 commemorative trees were donated along with money donated for the initiative. Many of the trees planted were used as memorials and others were just a kind gesture to the University, Johnson said.

"I was really astonished that so many people were so concerned about the arboretum and that they wanted to help us by donating a tree," Johnson said.

Project Plant-A-Tree started last spring, a fund raising event that the Northwest Foundation started in order to raise money, planted 107 trees. New species of trees were introduced into the Missouri Arboretum this year. If all goes according to plan, more than 200 of the 337 trees donated will be planted by the middle of December, Johnson said.

The second phase of planting the next 100 trees started last week in an effort to have all commemorative trees planted by July 1. Next spring the final phase will begin, Johnson said.

With all of the new trees being planted, it will be the youngest growing class making the oldest growing class of trees decrease.

Some of the new trees being phased into the arboretum are Yoshino cherry trees and elm trees that are resistant to Dutch elm disease caused by a fungus transmitted by two species of bark beetles or root grafting, Johnson said.

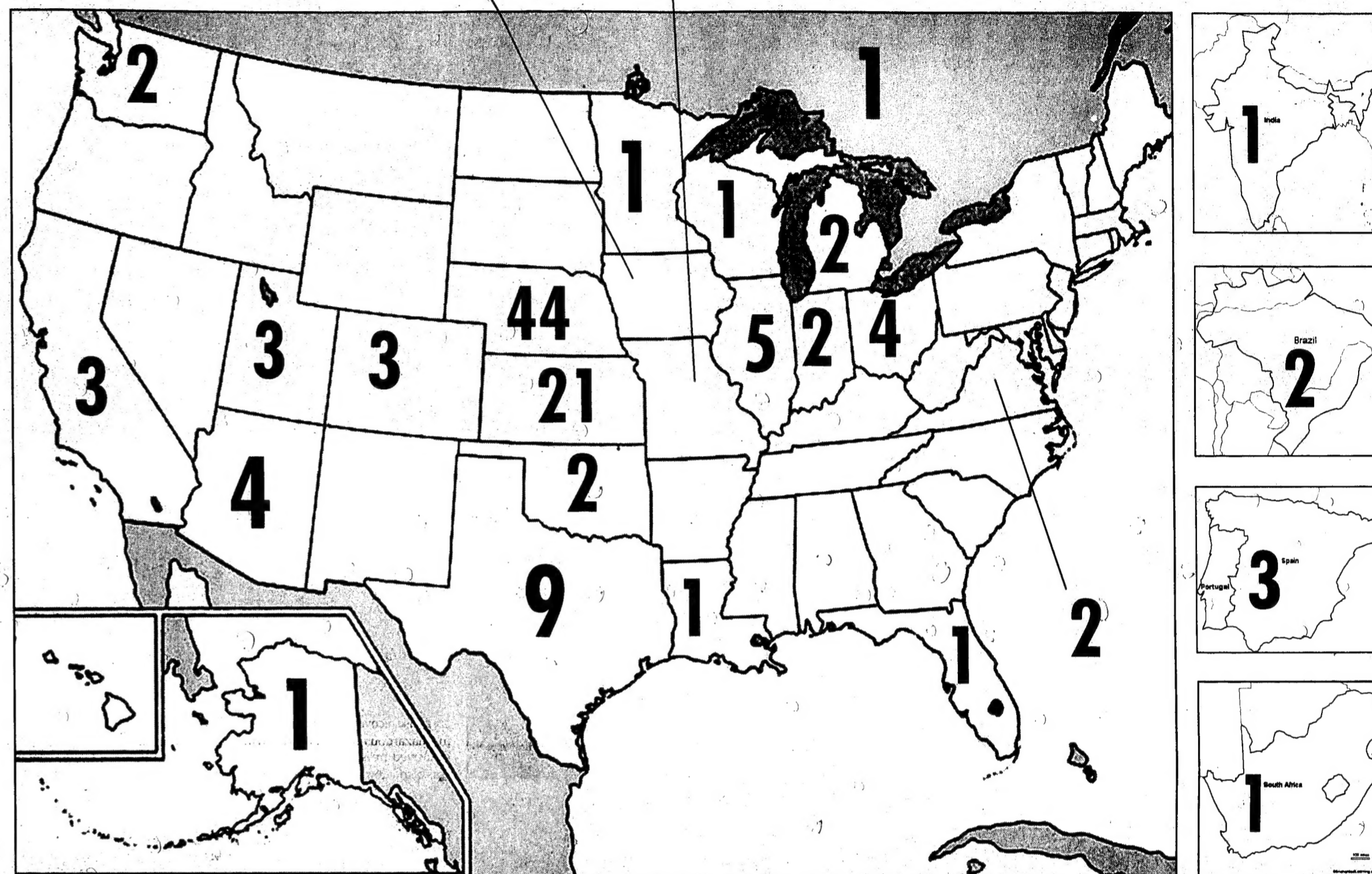
"It is really important to have trees in all of the age groups," Johnson said. "It is really important in an arboretum to always be planting trees because there is always something taking trees away."

There are more than 200 trees already planted and more to be planted in the following years.

"More are on the way," Stone said. "And that is going to continue on for years now adding trees as we (campus) grow."

Bearcats around the world

51 193



'Cats take athletes from afar

By Marcus Meade
Sports Editor

Three planes, 10 flight hours and a whole lot of layovers: that's what it takes for Northwest tennis player Daniel Usieto to visit his parents.

Of course, Usieto, a native of Barcelona, Spain, had a choice. He didn't have to go to school 4,776 miles from home, but it was the drive to compete, to keep playing the sport he loves that brought athletes from near and far to Northwest.

"I just wanted to compete a little bit longer," Usieto said. "If you study there (Spain), you don't have too much time to play tennis."

Usieto certainly isn't alone. Of Northwest's 362 athletes, 159 come from out of state and 51 from outside the quad state area.

A majority of Usieto's own teammates are from outside the U.S., two from Brazil, one from South Africa and one from India. All totaled, eight Bearcat athletes came from outside the country.

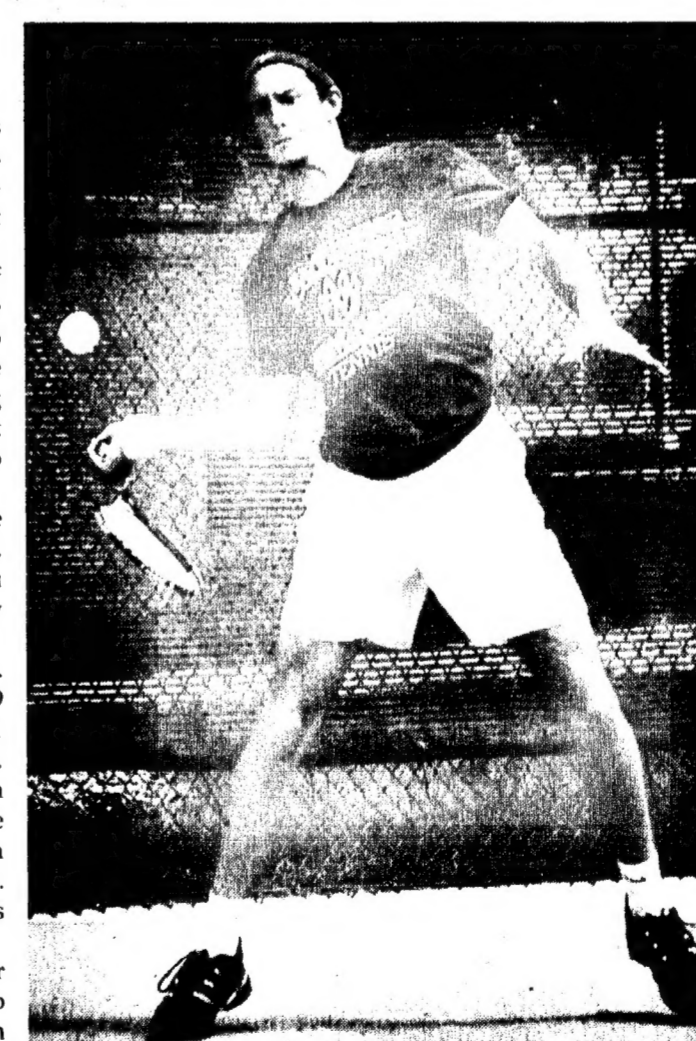
Most of those athletes play for tennis coach Mark Rosewell who makes it a point to recruit foreign players.

"Most of them, they don't have college tennis at their universities," Rosewell said. "So they're all wanting to come to the United States so they can keep playing. If they stay in their country either they're going to go professional, or there's no more tennis."

How does Rosewell do it? The Internet and word of mouth. Many of Rosewell's foreign players had siblings or friends who played for Northwest. Usieto however, came to Northwest via an agency that finds colleges for foreign players to attend.

In Spain, Usieto's options were limited. Colleges there have no sports teams, so he could either become a professional, which he admitted he wasn't ready to do, or play as a hobby. He, of course, chose option C, come to the U.S.

"I wanted to improve my English, and I think I



DANNY USIETO HAS taken a swing at tennis here in the U.S. Usieto makes the trip back to see his family in Spain about once every six months, spending most of his summers there.

did," Usieto said, "and force myself to experience something different. I'm kind of an outgoing person. I try to explore different things, if you want to say. I thought it was a good idea to come over here and see the differences in the cultures, lead sort of a different life by myself."

At the Division II level, recruiting long distance players like Usieto and Columbus, Ohio native Rickeya McElroy isn't easy. Most of the time, coaches like women's basketball coach Gene Steinmeyer rely on contacts at high schools and junior colleges around the country to help them get a look at talented players outside the quad state area.

"With technology, they're right at your back

door," Steinmeyer said. "The hard part is getting to them quickly ... For Division II, you don't get hardly any out-state high school seniors unless it's a neighboring state."

In McElroy's case, Steinmeyer utilized former Northwest men's basketball player Lance Sullivan as a contact. Sullivan was a high school classmate and friend of McElroy's and knew she had talent and no place to play after junior college. He told Steinmeyer about her, and that got the ball rolling.

Often times recruiting nationally comes down to who a coach knows. Head football coach Mel Tjeerdema has found great success with players like Kendall Wright and Jeremy Davis who came from Texas, a state known as a high school football factory. As a former coach in the state of Texas, Tjeerdema has contacts who can draw his attention to certain players from the area, but at the same time he knows he can't really thrive at the national level.

"In Texas, we do take a small area of Texas, but again most of that's based on recommendations from other coaches," Tjeerdema said. "We can't afford to bring in too many kids from a distance because when you bring them in for a visit there's a flight involved, and you have to pay for a flight and all those things, and we just can't do that. So, it does limit us in some of the things we can do."

Once players choose to attend Northwest, they then face the difficult task of leaving friends, family and familiarity behind.

"My father was kind of upset," Usieto said. "You can imagine, it's hard to leave your house and your family and all your friends and everything you know basically and go so far away to study. So, it was hard."

Even for McElroy, moving from Ohio to Maryville took some getting used to, but her teammates made the transition a little easier, she said.

Usieto agreed. Two of the female tennis players are also from Spain. That, his outgoing personality and American openness allowed him to make friends quickly, he said.

With one year remaining, Usieto has begun to think about the decision all out of country 'Cats must face. Should he stay or should he go?

"I'll try to find a (graduate assistantship) as an assistant coach, so tennis can be part of my life," Usieto said. "I'll always try to play, either as a hobby or with friends or however. I just want to still play."



By Marshall Carlson
Missourian Reporter

December's here, and it's getting cold outside. This is one scene Canadian Jennifer Kiss is very familiar with. Kiss is from Nottelton, Ontario, a quick half-hour drive from Toronto.

Kiss competes in the heptathlon at Northwest, and has been participating in track and field ever since fourth grade.

All throughout high school she played four sports, but track was the one she got the most scholarship offers for from colleges in the U.S. On Kiss's journey to becoming a Bearcat, she visited many schools.

"After talking to coach Scott Rosewell, I decided this was the school for me," she said. It was that and the fact that her mom liked it, which helped.

On Christmas Eve, she and her sister with all of her relatives, a celebration where they eat turkey, just fish and pasta Christmas. Kiss and her would usually travel to places like Miami, Florida and the Marian

Canadian Thanksgiving is a holiday celebrated quite similar in the U.S.

Spending a few years here, from home has gotten to be hard my first year. It's fine and becoming

During the break this winter she plans on traveling back to Colorado to be with her family and then head out to New City for New Year's.

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Top 5 picks

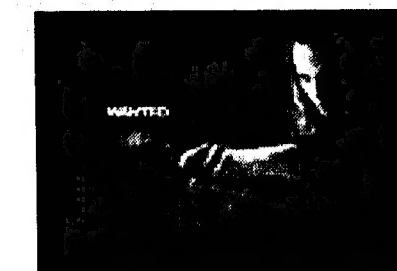
By Brian Johnson
Entertainment Reporter

Coming to Theaters: "Cadillac Records" hits theaters tomorrow. The film is directed by Darnell Martin who has directed episodes of "Law and Order" and "Grey's Anatomy" and stars Adrien Brody ("The Pianist") and Beyonce Knowles ("Dreamgirls"). It follows the legendary singers that recorded for Chess Records, such as Etta James (Knowles) and the leader of the label, Leonard Chess (Brody). Keep an eye out for Jeffrey Wright ("W") as the legendary guitarist Muddy Waters.

New Album Hitting Stores: "Circus" by Britney Spears hit stores Tuesday. With her tumultuous days behind her, Britney Spears is back and better than ever with this new album. The first single "Womanizer" has already provided some infectious pop material and a steamy music video. Personal life aside, Spears has always been able to put out entertaining albums and I'm sure this one will be no different.

TV Show to check out: NBC's "My Own Worst Enemy" starring Christian Slater. The show follows a secret agent who has two personalities but has no idea of his affliction. He also has a chip implanted in him that gives his handlers the ability to switch his personalities at random. This Jekyll and Hyde dichotomy is an interesting take on crime drama shows which is much needed on television. Slater has never disappointed in past roles and he is no disappointment in this show.

New to DVD: "Wanted" hit stores Tuesday. This summer hit starring Angelina Jolie ("Mr. and Mrs. Smith") about a secret society of assassins is sure to quell any action film buff's tastes. The film follows an ordinary 20-something in a dead-end job who is recruited by the society's leader, played by Morgan Freeman. What follows is a cleverly shot thrill ride with amazing cinematography, a clever script and a great twist.



New song to check out: "Human" by The Killers. This latest installment from the synth-pop band is sure to please any who are fans of their "Hot Fuss" days. This is the first single off of their latest album "Day and Age" which was released on Nov. 24.

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44 Tack to court
49 Typo
50 Only penciled in
55 Labor
56 Glorious
57 Chopped into fine pieces
58 Royal, MI
59 Get out of bed
60 Correct
61 Morays
62 Rate of progress
63 'Angie Baby' singer
64 Billard snuffers
65 Five pointer
66 Actress Barbere

DOWN
1 Backhorn
2 Hook
3 Bee or Em
4 Maker
5 Part of ERA
6 Russian peaks
7 Planned explosive
8 Water in the garden
9 Sault, Marie
10 Satellite, e.g. lower
11 Emulated Pica's
12 Colossal
13 Fervor
14 Holy smoke!
21 Finishes ahead
24 Purplish brown
25 Rascal
26 Carry by hand
27 Gallivant
28 Catchers' gloves
29 Billard snuffers
31 Five pointer
32 Actress Barbere
33 Laundry unit
34 Cravings
35 Scrub
37 Memorable times
40 Baltimore birds
41 When to make
43 Boy pharaoh
44 Elementary text
45 Get back to even
46 Game up
47 Dental instrument
48 Serenade the sheets
50 Bye-bye!
51 Roberts or Clapton
52 Chilled
53 Set
54 Countercurrent
56 Recipe abbr.

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STROLLER

Your Man hates wet pants

With winter comes many beautiful things, such as festive lighting on homes around town and jolly ole St. Nick's face plastered everywhere you go.

Another thing that comes with winter that isn't so happy and great? Freaking snow.

Sure, it's pretty and fluffy and nice to look at from time to time, but seriously, it sucks. It's cold, wet and slushy, and to be honest, Your Man doesn't find anything enjoyable about those three things when they are together.

Picture this: you're walking to class, minding your own business, when all of a sudden, you can't feel your feet anymore. They're soaked, and the bottoms of your pants are now completely disgusting from all the slush that has accumulated from the winter wonderland.

Now, Your Man does find it nice to look at sometimes, like when it's on TV. I don't have a problem with it when it's seen from a distance or when it's necessary, like on Christmas, but that's it. It should snow once a year, and it should be Dec. 25, beginning at midnight.

If it only snowed on Christmas, everyone would be a big bundle of joy because we'd have our cliché white Christmas and we wouldn't have to trek across this fine campus in all of the sickness of slush and snow. As long as it melts before classes start back up in January, things will be fantastic.

Not only does that stupid white stuff suck, the excessive cold winds could be done without as well. Luckily



The Stroller

for residents of this fine town, Maryville seems to be 30 degrees colder than everywhere in America in the winter, not to mention the 80 mph gusts of winds that we are so fortunate to have.

Since the snow has already disobeyed and fallen in the past week, Your Man has had to stroll through the nasty winter wonderland and isn't a fan. Mother Nature needs to cut it out and heat things up before second trimester starts so this wet winter thing doesn't get out of control.

The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of *The Northwest Missourian*.

REVIEW

Editor thinks 'Twilight' movie lives up to hype; follows original story

By Sydney Moore
Features Editor

I, like a few million other females, want my very own Edward Cullen for Christmas.

Over the summer, I fell madly in love with the books—everything from the characters to the detailed love story to the angry fight scenes had me intrigued from page one.

When I heard the popular book by Stephanie Meyer was being made into a movie, I could hardly contain my excitement. I was anxious to see who would portray Bella Swan, which Hollywood hot-

tie would fill the beautiful shoes of Cullen and how they would go about cramming 500 pages into a two-hour movie.

Over Thanksgiving break, I saw the movie not once, but twice, and I thought it was great. Sure, there were parts left out I would have liked to see, like the budding relationship between Bella and Mike Newton, or the estranged friendship between Bella and



Jessica Stanley, but overall I think it was fine without them.

Although some aspects of the book were left out, a few new things were added in the film. A diner where Bella and her father were frequent customers was an addition, along with a trip Bella and Edward's biology class takes.

I've heard it over and over since the movie was released, about how terrible the adaptation was because

it wasn't 100 percent true to the book. Don't get me wrong, I'm like any other "Twilight" fanatic, but I also understand it's just a movie adaptation. Of course things can't always end up dead on from the book, but audiences have to keep in mind not everyone seeing the movie has read the book yet. The movie was made for entertainment purposes and for me, it did just that.

Sure, there were a few things here and there I would have changed, but overall I think "Twilight" was a hit and lived up to the hype it had cast over it.

I think Rob Pattinson ("Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix") and Kristen Stewart ("Into the Wild") did an excellent job of portraying Edward and Bella. They had the chemistry I expected (although more would have been nice) and Pattinson had the hot immortal thing down perfectly.

As for those who don't agree, I hope they give "New Moon" a second chance when it is released in 2010, because I think Pattinson and Stewart are going to be back and ready to improve their already wonderful performances.

REVIEW

Staffer disappointed; 'Twilight' movie a far stretch from first hit book

By Rachel Fair
Missourian Reporter

If you're going to turn a bestseller into a movie, don't you think you should at least try not to screw it up?

"Twilight," the over-popular vampire/human love story by Stephanie Meyer, was recently released into theaters in the long-awaited movie. The outcome? Well, let's just say if you're a fan of the book series, you will most likely be disappointed.

Basically, the script writers just took the most popular phrases from

the book and threw them in wherever they pleased. There was a diner that most of the scenes were set in—hmm, pretty sure there was no diner in the book, thank you. And what's with that school trip? Do you honestly think five vampire kids—one of which was having a tough time adjusting to the atmosphere as it was—would sit on a school bus with a bunch of humans? Probably not, this is why Meyer 8 didn't have it in the book.

Now, it is understandable when a popular fandom-creating series, such as "Twilight" and "Harry Potter" is

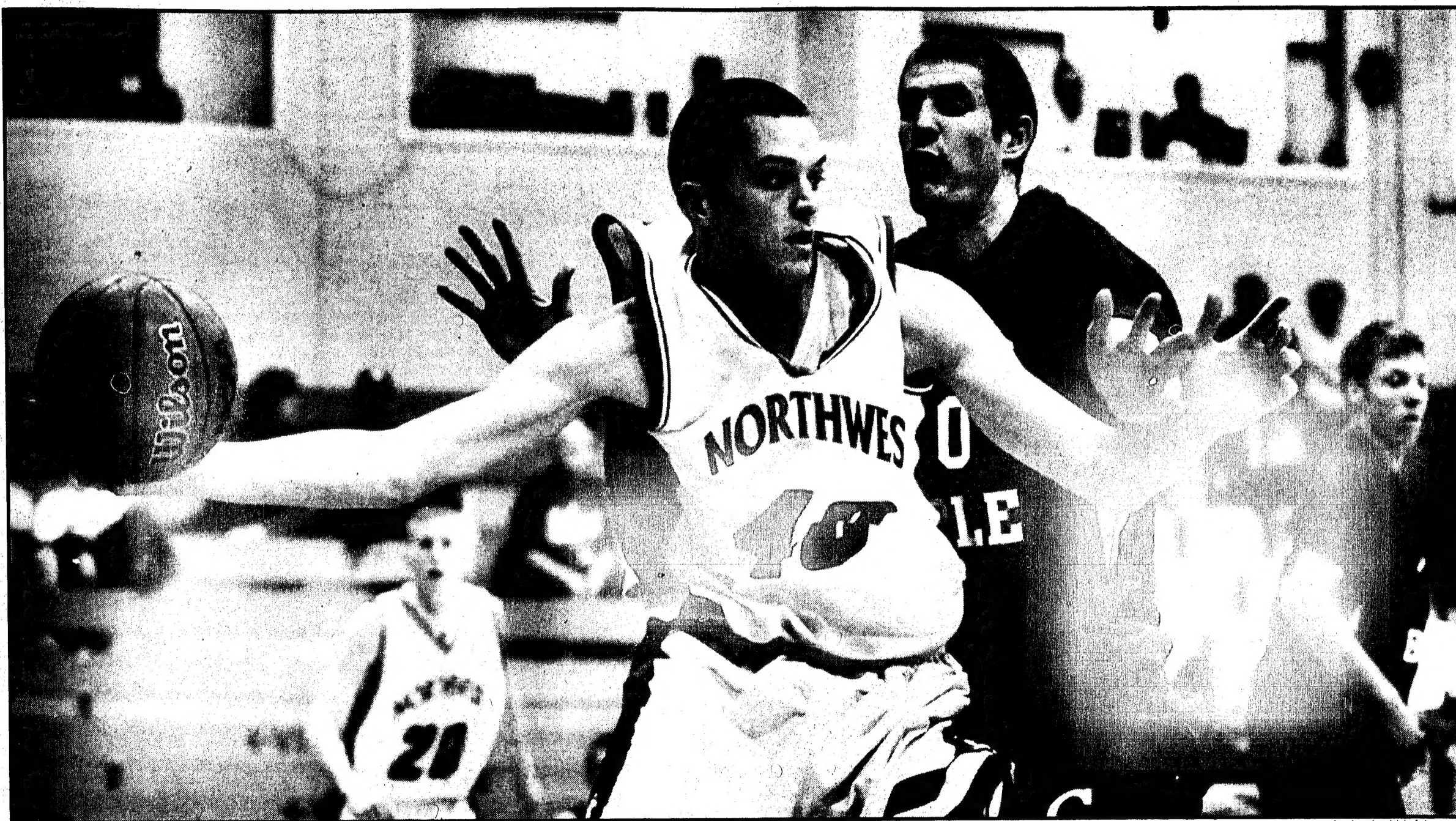
turned into a movie, it is not going to be exactly the same. Fans understand that you can't fit 500 pages worth of amazing literature into a two-hour movie. We know this. But at the same time, if you're going to turn our favorite book into a cinematic pleasure, can't you at least stick to the script. Cut out some things if you have to, but don't just tear up the script, throw in some things here and there—in the wrong places—and expect the fandom to find you amazing. We don't.

Now, the cast wasn't that bad. Robert Pattinson played the perfect

hunk-a-tidious vampire of every girl's dream with flying colors. Bella Swan was played by Kristen Stewart, who actually did a pretty decent job. At first, a lot of fans (myself included) weren't too pleased with her casting, because Bella was supposed to be soft, small, everything breakable—and Stewart seems angular, tough. It just didn't feel like a good fit at all. Instead, Stewart blew through it wonderfully. There were moments when she freaked out a little too much, too early, but other than that, she filled out the character of Bella pretty well.

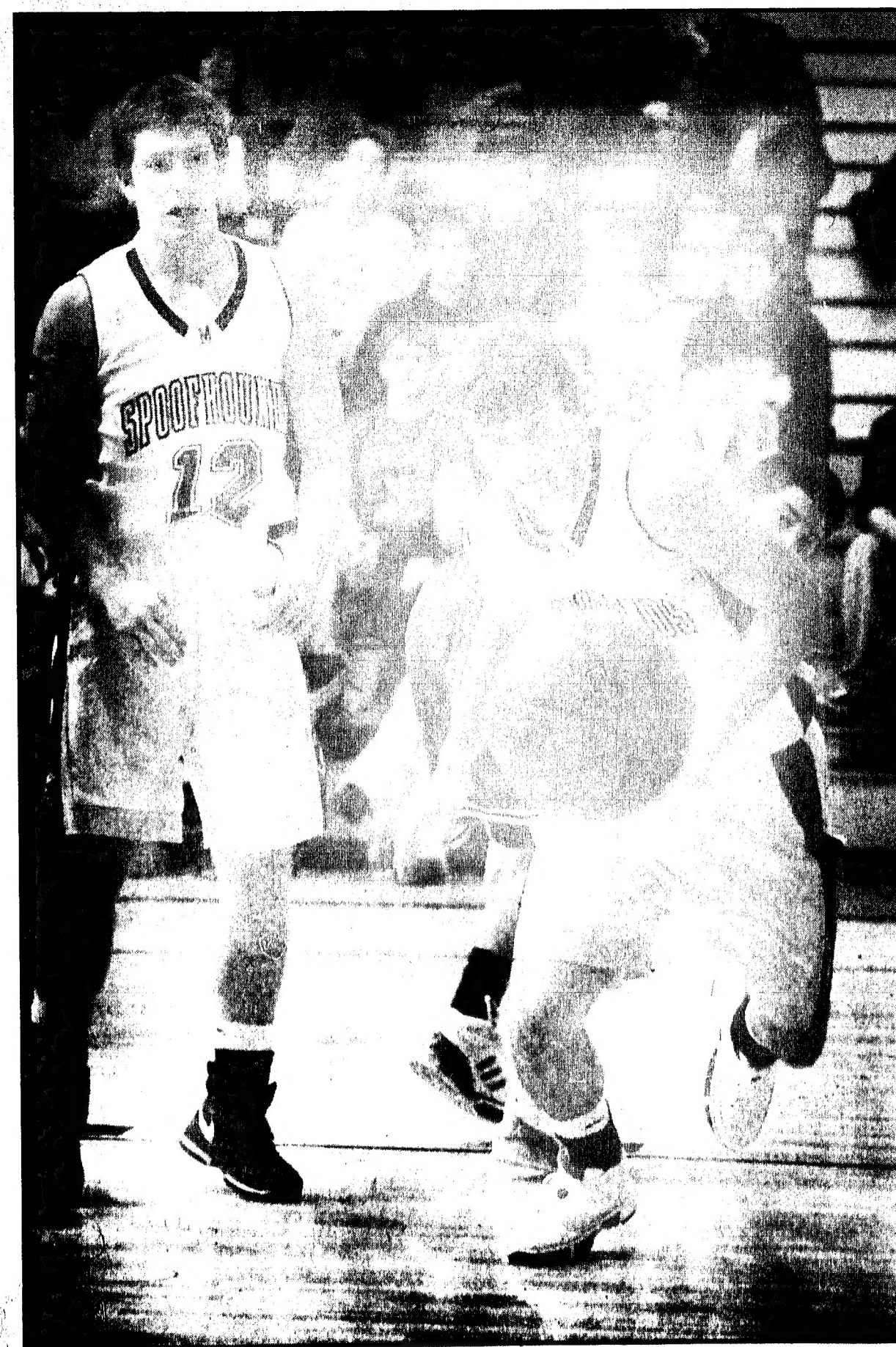
Same goes for the rest of the Cullens—each played out their character to the maximum level. It was nice to see the rivalry between the LaPush kids and the Cullens was still the same.

Overall, though, the movie could have been a heck of a lot better. Maybe they'll be able to make up for this by actually sticking to the book a bit with the last three in the series. Either way, no matter how much they disappoint, fans will still be there opening night—even if it is just to have the right to moan about how crappy it is—because that's what real fans do.

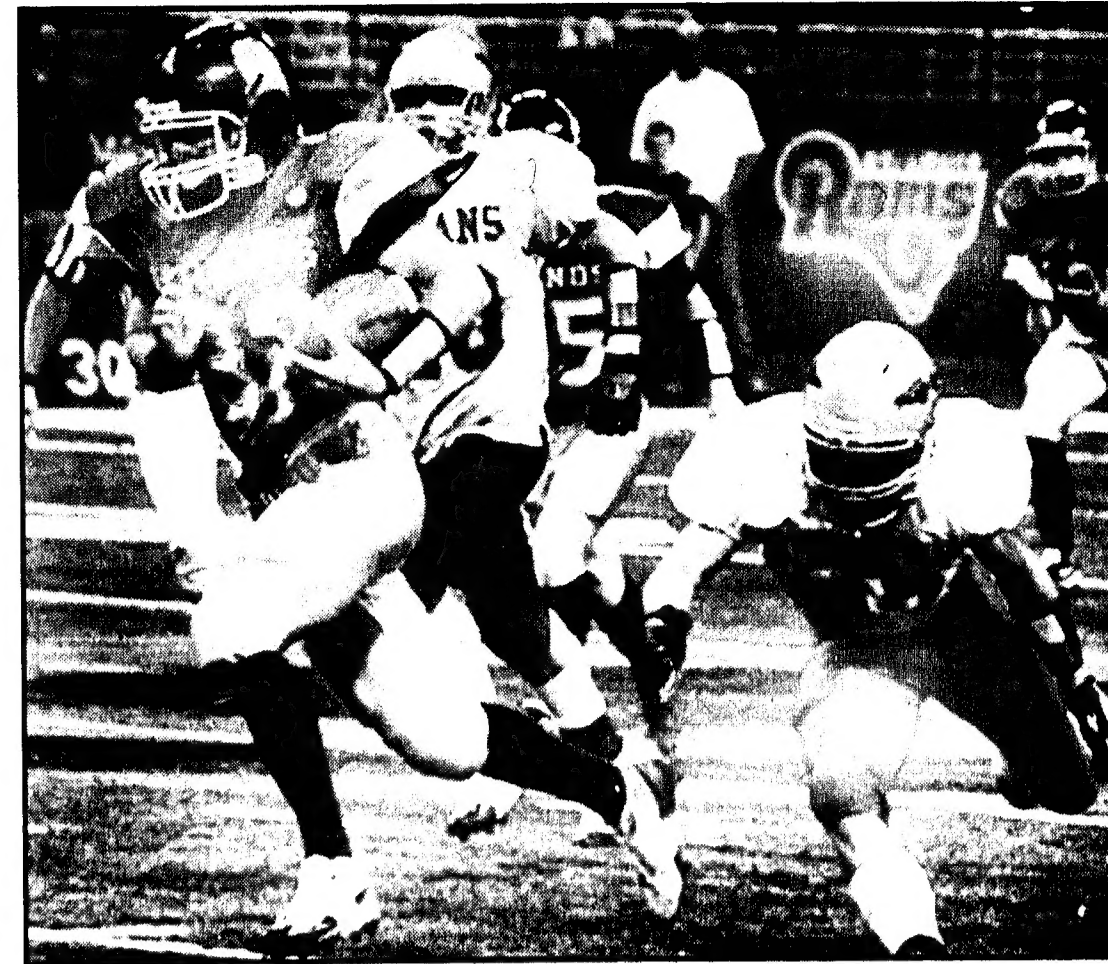


SENIOR HUNTER HENRY gets a hold on the ball against a Central Bible defender. Henry and the Bearcats destroyed Central Bible 78-38 meaning Henry only played 16 minutes. In those minutes, he managed 15 points and nine rebounds.

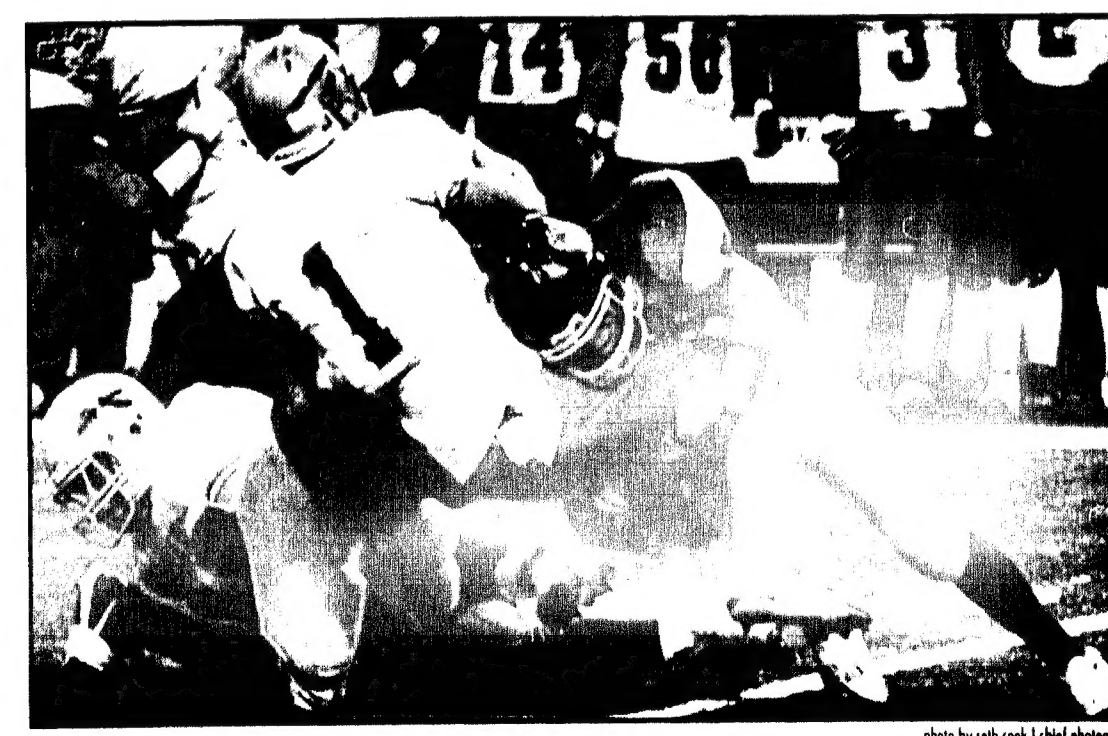
THIS WEEK IN SPORTS



SENIOR GUARD ADAM Mattson hustles for a stray ball in Tuesday's 51-45 win over Staley High School. Mattson had an exciting week, playing in a state championship game Saturday and making it back to the basketball court for the Spoofhounds' opening game of the Savannah Tournament Tuesday.



SENIOR RUNNING BACK ADAM Mattson breaks a tackle on his way past Indian defenders. Mattson ended the season as the team's leading rusher and scorer.



SENIOR LINEBACKER ADAM Mattson tackles the opposing quarterback. Mattson led the 'Hounds in rushing during their state championship appearance and scored the team's only touchdown.

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BASKETBALL



SENIOR GUARD JOE JASINSKI drives past a Staley defender Tuesday in the Spoofhounds 51-45 victory in the first round of the Savannah Tournament. The 'Hounds will play their second round game at 8:30 p.m. tonight in Savannah.

FOOTBALL: Boys fall despite tough defense

Continued from A1

The 'Hounds' defense battered the Indians' ball carriers with a series of big hits.

Maryville's defense played more physical, and hit harder than any team Clark Co. had seen this year, Allen said.

Senior defensive back Derek Johns delivered a crucial hit in the third quarter to disrupt a sure touchdown pass on fourth down from the Maryville five-yard-line to keep the score tied 7-7.

"That gave everybody a huge lift," senior quarterback Joe Jasinski

said. "We haven't allowed a score in the third quarter all year and we just kept it going."

Despite Farmer producing his longest run of the game on the next play to move the 'Hounds out of the shadow of their own goalpost, the offense sputtered and punted the ball back to Clark Co., and would get just one more chance to produce a score.

Like they have done all season, the combination of Mattson and Farmer were responsible for most of Maryville's offense. The pair accounted for 363 of the 'Hounds' 420 all-purpose yards.

Mattson accumulated nearly 199 all-purpose yards in the game. He returned a kickoff 13 yards, and ran for 186 including the 'Hounds' only touchdown on a one-yard run in the third quarter.

Farmer added 164 all-purpose yards. He ran for 64, caught a 12-yard pass, and had 88 yards on returns. Zach Sherry anchored the 'Hounds' sturdy defense with seven solo tackles and two for losses. Jasinski also totaled seven tackles with one for a loss.

Maryville finished the 2008 season 13-2, district champions and Class 2 state runner-ups.

PROFILE

Coach sparks turnaround

By Christopher Woodland
Community Sports Editor

After bouncing around from job to job for a few years, Maryville's fiery head football coach Chris Holt has found success, but still wants more.

Holt transformed a 2-7 Spoofhound team averaging just 11 points-per-game in 2005 into a 13-2 state runner-up team that averaged 35 points-per-game in 2008.

Holt's transformation of the 'Hounds didn't arrive overnight though, as the team stumbled to a 4-6 record in his first season. The 'Hounds won three of their last four games in 2006 and gave Holt hope for the future.

"We thought we were heading in the right way," Holt said. "We had a great staff, and thought the group of kids we had coming back that could get us over the hump."

Maryville carried that momentum into the 2007 campaign, and won its first seven games before suffering its only loss of the season at Lawson, which ultimately prevented the 'Hounds from making the playoffs despite a 9-1 record.

Riding the wave of last season's success, Holt and the 'Hounds set their sights not just on the playoffs but on bringing home a state championship.

After blazing through the playoffs, Maryville came up four yards short of the school's second state championship. Coming so close to the championship, only to come up short has made the young coach even more determined to get back to the Edward Jones Dome.

"I always told people I wanted to be in the championship game at least once," Holt said. "Now I've been there, so now I'm mad and I want to go back and win one. It was one of the most disappointing

football moments of my life walking off that field, but at the same time it was one of the most satisfying moments."

One major reason for the turnaround comes from Holt's personality.

Holt's honesty with his players and determination to avoid complacency is apparent on Friday nights. With the 'Hounds firmly in control of the Trenton game earlier this year, but not playing particularly well, Holt yelled out to his players. "What planet are you guys on tonight?"

"He's demanding, but he's fair," Maryville Athletic Director Paul Snow said. "He wants to get the most out of (the kids). He's very tough but they know what to expect. They know that there are consequences if they do something crazy."

Holt arrived in Maryville after coaching Princeton to a 9-1 record that like his 9-1 finish with Maryville in 2007 failed to yield a playoff berth. He wasted little time making an impact on his new players.

"He's a great guy," senior full-back Wyatt Maudlin said. "I mean coming in here as the new coach (in 2006) he just threw himself in there and helped us out a lot."

Holt's effect on his players reaches farther than the football field. Listed on the team's Web site "maintain a 3.0 team GPA" is listed under season goals.

"Chris has installed discipline and a sense of accountability with the boys," Snow said. "He makes sure they are responsible in the weight room, the classroom and the community. I guess what I'm saying is that he makes them work hard and get the most out of themselves."

With Holt's history of short stays as the head coach at Schuylers County and Princeton, some



COACH CHRIS HOLT reacts to the 'Hounds 10-7 loss to Clark County in the state finals.

photo by Seth Cook | child photographer

might worry about Holt jumping to a higher paying job. He claims he is in an area that he enjoys since both he and his wife grew up in the area.

"I grew up in northwest Missouri, and I always thought was one of the premiere jobs in the area," Holt said. "I grew up in Big Lake and went to (college) here, and she grew up in Bethany, so it's a nice fit. Unless the Kansas City Chiefs call me up tomorrow I'm not going anywhere."

Snow has already taken the measures to help solidify Holt's status as the coach of the Spoofhounds.

"No he's not going anywhere," Snow said with a wry smile. "We've guaranteed him the offensive coordinator's paycheck if he decides to leave."

Having found a place he enjoys living and coaching, Holt's ambitions right now are simple.

"I want to go back (to the championship) and win it," Holt said. "Period."

BEARCATS

SOCCER

GRADUATE ASSISTANT TYLER Martin helps a player adjust his pads during practice Tuesday afternoon. Martin is a former defensive back for the Bearcats.



photo by Dustin Sander
Assistant Sports Editor

GAs move from play to work

By Dustin Sander
Assistant Sports Editor

It's easy to figure out what a graduate assistant (GA) does, just break down the word. First word, graduate, every GA goes to graduate school in hopes of earning their masters in varieties of fields. Second word, assistant, every GA has a job while attending school, many assist the coach of any Northwest team.

"There are two things," cross country and track coach Scott Lorek said. "I have expectations of them helping the team, I also see GAs as they are in a student's position so there is an obligation from myself to teach them. They

get responsibilities, but they are also here to learn ... we're still educating them."

The average day of a GA begins as early as even the most dedicated college student, 8 a.m. The only catch is their day doesn't include nap time at two and then another at five like the typical college student. The GA will work all day doing varieties of things from watching film to calling recruits.

"I don't know how tough it is, a lot of times it doesn't seem like there's enough time in the day," football GA Tyler Martin said. "It's important to remember there's people that came before us and people that will be there after us who do the same things we do."

Juggling the responsibilities of school and coaching gets tough for every GA. Many are former athletes who have grown accustomed to practice and school, but now they have another responsibility of coaching.

For Martin, his day begins at 8 a.m. watching film from practice, creating game plans and making practice schedules all before class. After attending class and teaching activity classes, Martin goes back to work with football, attending practice for nearly three hours and then cutting and watching film for hours after the end of practice.

"It leaves just enough time to go home. See GRADUATE on A10

WOMEN: Fresh faces take on experienced Washburn

Continued from A14

features 11 new names to the roster as a "work in progress."

Steinmeyer did take blame to what he called a "mediocre start."

The Northwest starting line up consists of four seniors. Only one, Meghan Brue, is familiar with being a starter.

"I have seen that I kind of thrust them into the fire," Steinmeyer said. "I could have done a better job getting them ready to be starters."

The beginning of the season brought its ups and downs, senior Micaela Uriell said.

"We have a lot of new faces," Uriell said. "We're

getting used to playing with each other. We have really good chemistry off the court, which has helped us a lot on the court."

Northwest began conference play Wednesday at No. 10 Emporia State. Results were unavailable at press time.

It doesn't get any easier for the 'Cats as they stay on the road to face the No. 2 team in the country, Washburn.

Emporia and Washburn are both great teams, but they are completely different, Steinmeyer said. He knows playing Emporia, the 'Cats have to contain Cassandra Boston and Ida Edwards or else they will have their hands full.

The team can't focus on

just one player when facing Washburn, like the MIAA player of the week, Janice Bright, who is averaging 16.3 points a game and 5.7 rebounds.

"Janice is getting so much attention because of how good the team around her is," Steinmeyer said. "If we just focus on shutting her down, their other players will hurt us just as bad."

The 'Cats are excited for conference play to start. It is exciting to get to play tough teams, but they need to do the little things right to win those games, Uriell said.

"I really have no expectations for the first couple games," Steinmeyer said. "We just need to survive the first three games."

MEN: Tough road schedule to start

Continued from A14

"With so many new people we will need to overcome adversity," Larsen said. "If we get a conference loss we need to be able to bounce back."

The 'Cats conference play began Wednesday as Northwest traveled to Emporia State. Results were unavailable at press time.

They will get another chance at a conference foe on Saturday as they stay on the road going up against Washburn.

"Our first three games on the road against three very good conference schools," Meyer said. "We're hoping to come together as a team. Road win are uncommon, you're out on the road, you're playing on another team's floor, you

got their crowd and everything it can really bring a team together. That's what we need right now."

The 'Cats are going to be pitted up against a tough Washburn team that received help from some Division I transfers this year. Northwest is hoping to come out with a win to use a building block to the rest of their season, Meyer said.

Taking the approach game by game and practice by practice the 'Cats hope to be playing their best ball at the end of the season.

"We need to come out every week bringing our 'A' game," Carter said. "If we play hard, communicate well and play as a team offense and defense will take care of the rest."

SCORE BY QUARTER

(11-1) 10 10 7 9 — 36

(12-1) 14 14 7 10 — 45

TEAM STATISTICS

Northwest	Abilene Christian
454	Total plays
82	Total yards
134	Rushing yards
44	Rushing attempts
2-1	Fumbles lost
320	Passing yards
38	Passing attempts
2-9	Sacks-yards
27-39-0	Comp-Att-Int.
2-285	Punts-yards
5-5	Off. yards per play
30	First Downs
6-61	Penalties-yards
2-0	Int-yards
9 of 15	Third downs
2 of 3	Fourth Downs
	4 of 4



DEFENSIVE LINEMAN KYLE Sunderman works his way toward Abilene Christian running back Bernard Scott.

NORTHWEST

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Joel Osborn



Osborn led the Bearcat offense against the Abilene Christian Wildcats. Northwest put up 45 points on the Wildcats using the lethal combination of Osborn and back up quarterback Blake Bolles. This week Osborn and the 'Cats take on North Alabama.

Tyler Northway



Northway and the Bearcat defense held one of the most powerful offenses in the country to 36 points Saturday. He batted down three passes and had one-half of a sack against Abilene Christian's star quarterback Billy Malone.

Shelly Martin



Martin led the Bearcats in scoring during their 60-47 win over Avila Saturday. Martin had 15 points in 23 minutes of work. She also racked up two rebounds while sinking two three pointers. Martin and the 'Cats face Washburn in Topeka this Saturday.

Amber Vandevender



Vandevender had a season high eight assists during the Bearcats' win over Avila last Saturday. Her ability to distribute the basketball helped Northwest rack up 60 points. She also added four steals and four rebounds in the effort.

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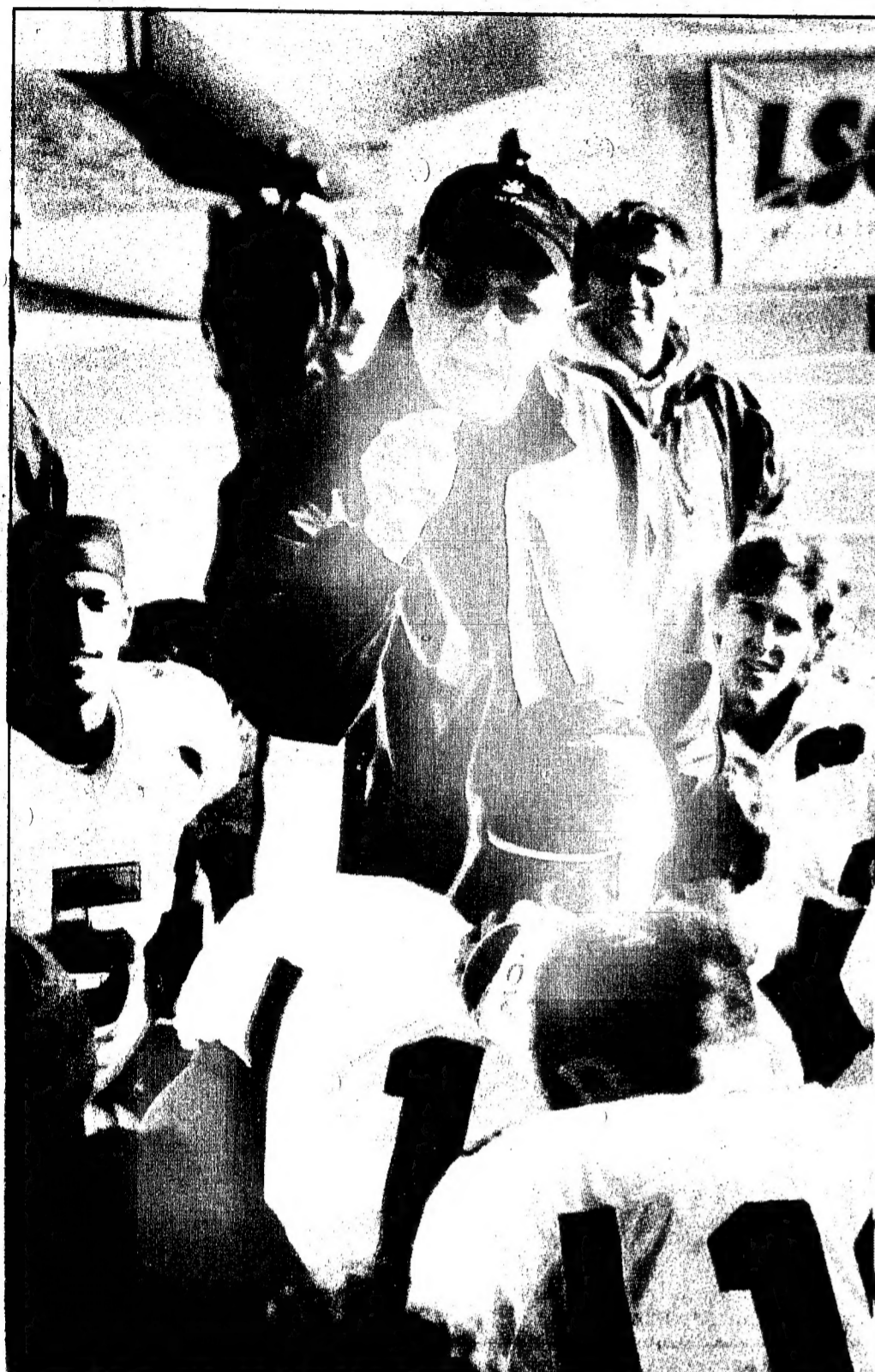
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NW FOOTBALL



COACH MEL TJEERDEMA addresses his players after their victory over previously unbeaten Abilene Christian. The win avenges a loss the Bearcats suffered in the first week of their season.



COACH MEL TJEERDEMA and fullback Brant Gregg embrace after the Bearcats upset the Abilene Christian Wildcats. Gregg got a chance to carry the ball against the Wildcats, picking up a few key first downs.

WIN AND THEY'RE IN

Lions stand in way of 4th trip to Florence

By Marcus Meade
Sports Editor

Last weekend, Northwest defeated Abilene Christian on the road to avenge its only loss of the season and move into the semi finals.

The team they're facing in the semi finals, North Alabama, did it too.

The Lions took down Delta State (Miss.), who beat them earlier this season to rob them of a conference championship. Leading the playoff charge for the Lions is quarterback A.J. Milwee.

"He's a Harlon Hill finalist, and it definitely shows," junior safety Myles Burnside said. "He can definitely play. He has a great arm, and he can hurt you more with his feet. He has great speed, and his supporting cast is really good."

Milwee is a dual threat quarterback who leads the team in passing with 3,176 yards through the air and is third in rushing with 221 yards and rushing touchdowns.

The 'Cat defense, which held one of the nation's top offenses to 36 points last Saturday, has experience with athletic quarterbacks. They faced Pittsburg State's Mark Smith twice this season along with Nebraska-Omaha's Zach Miller and Southwest Baptist's Steven Gachette.

"It starts up front with the d-line getting pressure on him," Burnside said. "Then, kind of rallying to him, and hopefully, the interior d-line not running up field. They can stay put and get underneath and just get pressure on the quarterback so he can't hurt us through the air."

Containing Milwee might come down to forcing him to make mistakes. Turnovers have played an important role in helping the 'Cats win this season, and defensive coordinator Scott Bostwick hopes they will again. Getting the ball away from the Lions has been a tough task

so far this year; they're plus 31 in turnover margin.

One factor working against the 'Cats may be the health of senior cornerback Brandon Clayton. His status is unknown for the game Saturday, but Burnside is confident the secondary's depth should make up for the loss of Clayton if he can't go.

"If there's anyway he can go, he can play," Burnside said. "Our depth in the corner's helped us all year. So, definitely if Brandon can go or can't go, it's going to help us with Justin Welch, Ryan Jones, E.J. Hawkins and Kevin Okonta getting time."

On the flip side, Northwest will count on the 'Cat offense to keep the ball safe. The Lions have picked off 32 passes this season which puts extra pressure on quarterback Joel Osborn and the Northwest offense to protect the football.

Regardless of what the Lion defense tries, the 'Cats will try to remain balanced on offense, senior guard Tom Pestock said.

"A.D. (offensive coordinator Adam Doran) always has a great game plan for us, and it keeps us balanced," Pestock said. "They can't really set on anything because they don't know what we're going to do exactly. Even if the run's working great, we'll still throw the ball, kind of spread it around and take advantage of everything."

Pestock and the rest of the 'Cats face North Alabama at 3 p.m. Saturday at Bearcat Stadium. The game will be broadcasted on ESPN 2 as well.



photo by dustin sander | assistant sports editor
RUNNING BACK LARON COUNCIL provided the Bearcats with two rushing touchdowns in Northwest's win over Abilene Christian.

MEN'S BASKETBALL



photo by selt cook | chief photographer
JUNIOR GUARD MIKE LARSEN attempts a layup before meeting a Central Bible defender in mid-flight.

Conference play begins with tough Emporia

By Brian Bosiljevac
University Sports Editor

Northwest men's basketball team will begin conference play ranked No. 24 nationally.

The Bearcats will enter the MIAA season with a 3-1 overall record.

This team definitely faces a challenge this year as the 'Cats try to get their 11 new additions to get use to player with one another.

"We have a lot of talent," junior Shawn Carter said. "But that isn't what is going to win us games. We need to develop chemistry and come together as a team. Our individual talent isn't going to win games. It will be our ability to play as a team."

The only three returners are used to the way each other plays the game. They are used to playing together, junior Mike Larsen said. Now the 'Cats need to get all 13 players on the same level.

Northwest is traditionally known for their defensive efforts but has had a slow defensive start will all the new faces on the court.

"These kids whether coming out of high school or junior college are not used to focus on defense like we are here," assistant coach Austin Meyer said. "I think our offense is ahead of our defense which just goes back to where our guys have come from in the past."

The true test for this team will come win adversity is thrown at them, Larsen said.

See MEN on A13

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Women take on Ichabods, begin tough MIAA season

By Brian Bosiljevac
University Sports Editor

The Northwest women's basketball squares off against No. 2 ranked Washburn Saturday.

The Bearcats will bring a 4-2 record into the game against the toughest opponent they've seen all year.

Head coach Gene Steinmeyer used the word "underachieving" to describe the start of the 'Cats' season.

"When we play well, we play really well," Steinmeyer said. "But when we play bad, it gets pretty bad. There's not too much in the middle yet."

He is looking for his team to find its identity as conference play begins, returning to the team which

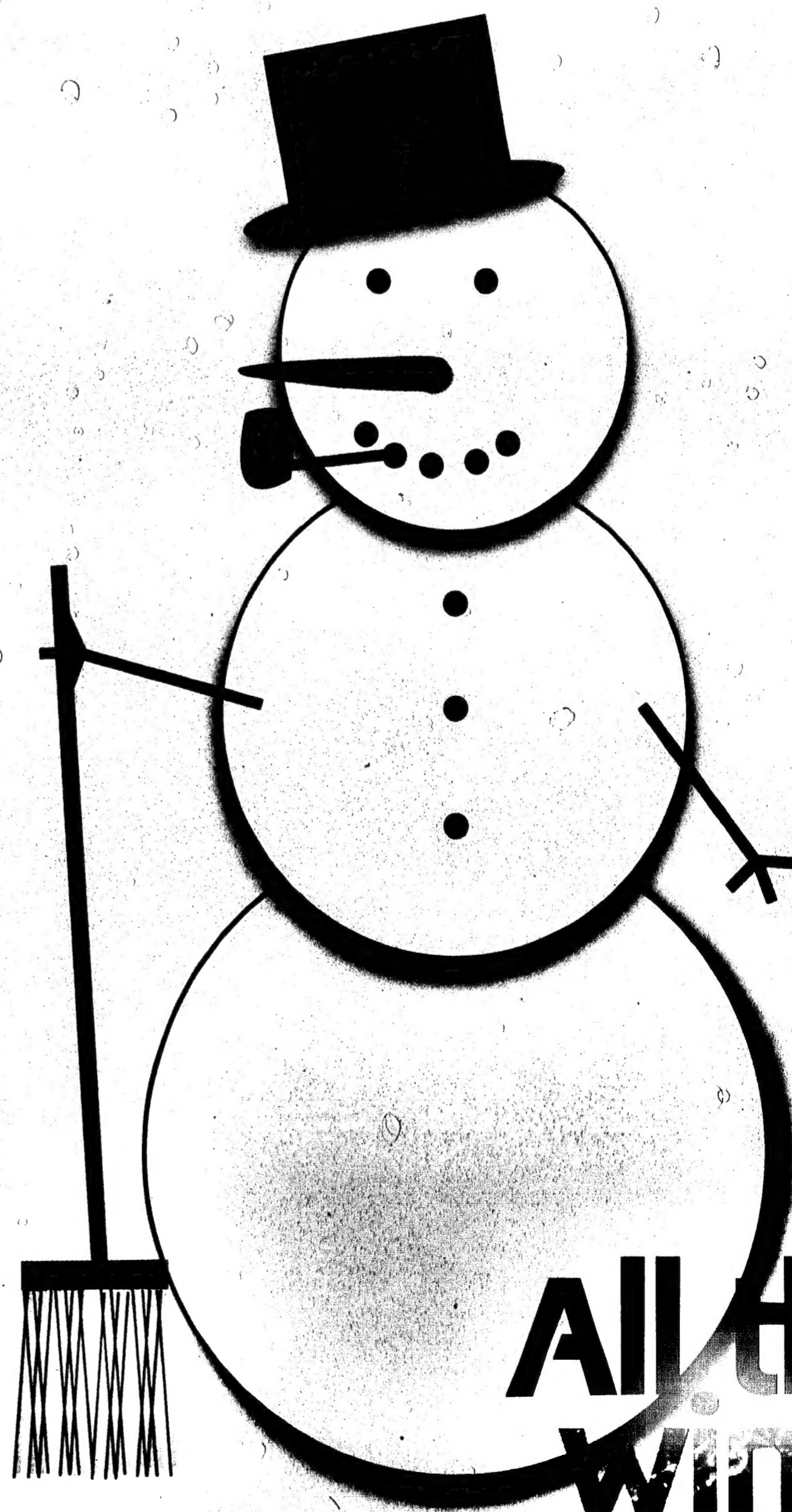
See WOMEN on A13

Inside:

For a truly "old-fashioned Christmas," check out the annual Yuletide Feaste. p. 3

To make sure holiday travels are safe for you and your family, check our car care guide. p. 4

Your Man isn't quite so holly-jolly this season. Read his special letter to Santa. p. 8



All things winter

NWMISSOURIAN '08

DEFENSE WINS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Week 1:	44 points allowed
	228 rushing yards allowed
	64 yards per play
Week 13:	36 points allowed
	186 rushing yards allowed
	58 yards per play

Local worship services schedule

First Baptist:
Christmas Cantata - Dec. 21 at 10:45 a.m.
Christmas Eve service - Dec. 24 at 6:30 p.m.

First Christian Church:
Christmas Cantata - Dec. 7 at 10:25 a.m.
Children's Service - Dec. 14 at 10:25 a.m.
Candlelight Christmas Eve service - Dec. 24 at 7 p.m., 11 p.m.

First Presbyterian:
Candlelight Christmas Eve service - Dec. 24 at 7 p.m.

First United Methodist Church:
Candles and Carols - Dec. 7 at 6:30 p.m.
"Christmas Around the World" family event - Dec. 10 at 5:30 p.m.
Christmas Eve service - Dec. 24 at 5:30, 8 p.m.

Laura Street Baptist Church:
"The Christmas Offering" musical - Dec. 7 at 8:15, 10:40 a.m.
Children's program - Dec. 21 at 10:15 a.m.

Coffeehouse - Dec. 21 at 7 p.m.
Christmas Eve service - Dec. 24 at 7 p.m.

St. Gregory's Catholic Church:
Christmas Eve Mass - Dec. 24 at 4, 6 and 10 p.m.
Christmas morning service - Dec. 25 at 9 a.m.

Community of Faith Assembly of God:
Children's Program - Dec. 14 at 6 p.m.
"A Christmas Celebration" musical - Dec. 21 at 10:30 a.m.

Countryside Christian Church:
Christmas Eve service - Dec. 24 at 6 p.m.

Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church:
Christmas Eve service - Dec. 24 at 7 p.m.

Calvary Chapel Northwest:
Christmas Eve service - Dec. 24 at 7 p.m.

Feaste helps kick off holiday season

By Sydney Moore
Features Editor

The lights have been hung and holiday music has taken over the airwaves. Just around the corner, finals are lurking and the excitement of winter break is taking over students and faculty.

This weekend, to distract your mind from tests and studying, head to the J.W. Jones Student Union for the 35th annual Yuletide Feaste, a Renaissance-themed holiday performance and banquet, sponsored by the Northwest Department of Music.

The Feaste will begin at 5:30 p.m. tomorrow and 7:30 p.m. Saturday.

To set the stage for the Renaissance theme, members of the department will dress in costumes from the era.

"We'll be dressed in Renaissance style costumes, which are very beautiful, very colorful," Brian Lanier, Yuletide Feaste director, said. "It's basically a 16th century look."

"It's quite an event and quite a team effort," he said. "It really constitutes a great effort on part of the students and faculty."

The event will include musical

performances by the Northwest vocal ensemble, the Madraliers, along with the Recorder Consort and Royale Brass Quintet.

Also performing for the third year, the Northwest Theatre Department will perform a play.

"The theatre department will put on a play, kind of a spoof," Lainer said. "They're calling it 'The Wizard of Huzzahs,' kind of a spin on 'The Wizard of Oz.'"

The Feaste isn't just about performing for an audience. To get everyone in the holiday spirit, there will be sing-alongs, caroling and wassail to go around.

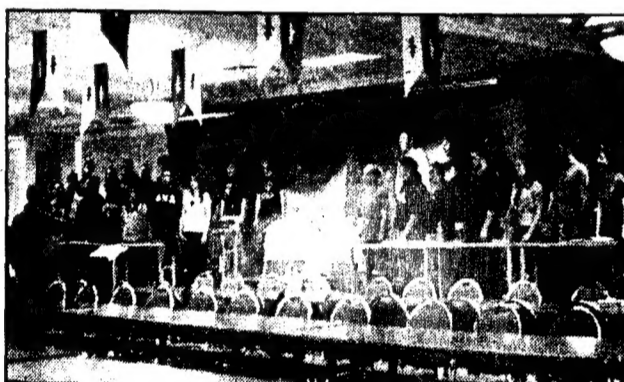
"And everyone gets to toast," Lainer adds. "And of course, lots of wonderful eating. We will have lots of great food."

The menu for this year's event

includes items such as roast beef, garlic cheddar and chive potato soufflé, and rice pilaf, among many other choices. For dessert, a homemade champagne cake with raspberry sauce will be served.

Tickets for the Feaste are on sale now on the first floor of the Olive DeLuce Fine Arts Building, for \$27.95.

"You can buy tickets with cash, checks, you can charge them to University accounts, credit cards or you can use your Aladdin money that's left over," Lainer said. "If you've got that extra money there that you're know you're going to lose anyway, come and bring a friend, impress somebody, bring them to the Yuletide Feaste. It's a fantastic date."



THE NORTHWEST Madraliers vocal ensemble rehearses for last year's Yuletide Feaste. This year's event will feature a spoof of "The Wizard of Oz."

file photo



file photo

LAST YEAR'S ICE storm's wrath covered campus and community, putting somewhat of a damper on the local holiday season. During the storm, plant life around the area was destroyed, households went without power for several days and falling tree limbs caused damage to cars and roofs.

Area plans ahead to avoid last year's icy devastation

By Sean Callahan
Missourian Reporter

The season's first snowfall is reminding some area residents of last year's long and eventful winter, especially the devastating ice storm last Dec. 10.

Throughout northwest Missouri, ice caused brittle tree limbs to fall, often taking power lines with them and causing damage to homes and other property. Many yards had large piles of branches and limbs until months after the storm had passed.

The ice destroyed hundreds of trees on the Northwest campus alone. During the past year, Project Plant-A-Tree raised more than \$100,000 to rejuvenate the campus, which is designated as the Missouri State Arboretum. More than 100 trees have been planted, and more are in the works, according to the Northwest Web site.

Sara Wine, a junior psychology major, spent the evening of the ice storm with friends, and said the effects were immediately noticeable.

"You could hear trees cracking for hours," she said.

The next day, she and her roommates assessed the damage at the house they rented on the

corner of Seventh and Mulberry.

A tree limb had fallen onto the roof of roommate Laura Kearney's car, smashing the windshield. A live power line lay in the front yard, and a cable line had snapped behind the house.

The city fixed the power line, but electricity wasn't restored for about two weeks, Wine said. She stayed with a friend at the Park Avenue Apartments.

"We had power, but no internet or cable. We were forced to watch Short Circuit 2 on DVD," she said.

While Wine's story may sound familiar to many area residents, area businesses say there are steps people can take to minimize property damage and maximize safety during the winter months.

Residents should be sure to stock up on necessary supplies, change furnace filters and have pellets on hand to combat ice on driveways and sidewalks, said Jeremy Palmer, assistant manager at Orscheln Farm and Home store on Main Street.

If someone has a generator, make sure it is working and has enough gas, Palmer said. He said some people also elect to cut limbs from trees near power lines to try to avoid outages in the event of an ice storm.

"It may not get bad," he said. "If it does, make sure you've got plenty of heat and anything you may need. Make sure you're prepared."

For cars, check antifreeze levels and temperature, said Chuck Rudisill, a customer service representative at O'Reilly Auto Parts. Also, make sure tires are not over-inflated, since traction is improved by having as much of the tire on the ground as possible.

Wiper blades, ice scrapers and windshield de-icer have been popular items in recent weeks, Rudisill said, adding that the key to winter driving is caution.

"Drive safe and keep an eye out for other drivers," he said. "If you have a problem, get it checked out before it becomes a bigger problem."

Rudisill said farmers taught him a trick to try to predict the weather for the winter season.

"They say since it first snowed on the 28th this year, that means we'll have 28 days of snow," he said.

Whatever the forecast brings, Wine hopes to avoid a repeat of last year's finals week.

"I couldn't even focus to study. It was crazy," she said. "I really hope this year is different."

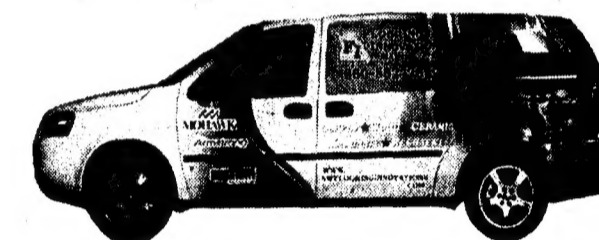
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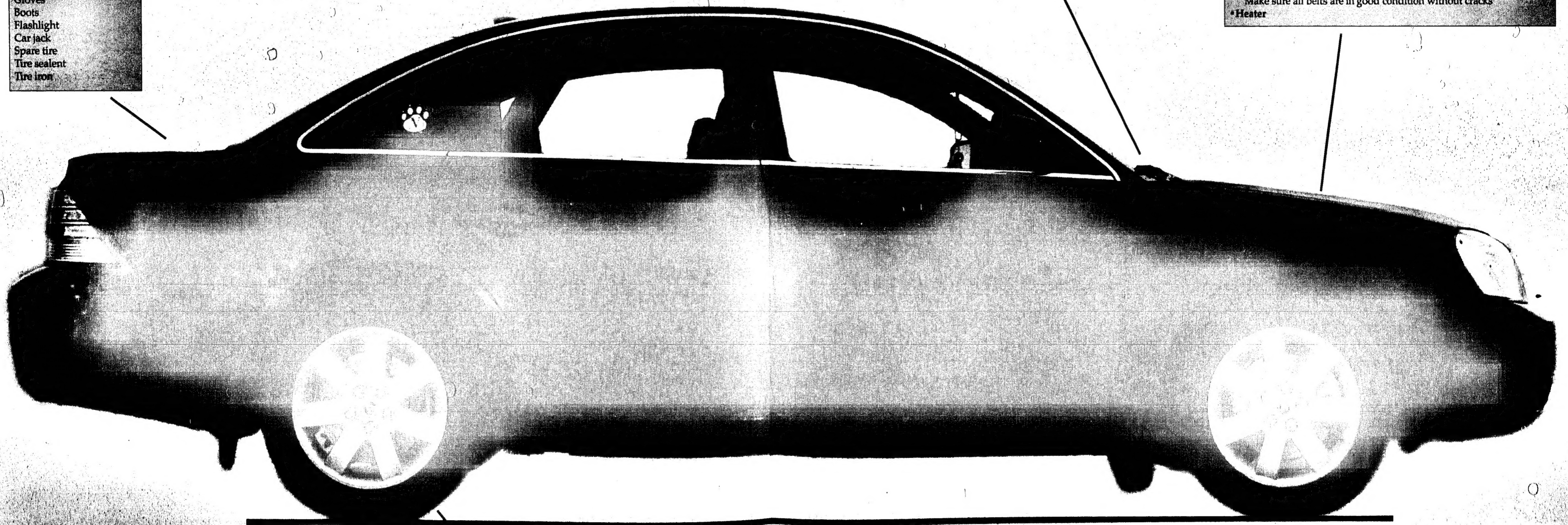
Your trunk needs:

Blankets
Coat
Gloves
Boots
Flashlight
Car jack
Spare tire
Tire sealant
Tire iron

Wiper blades need to be replaced to handle ice and snow effectively

Under the hood

- **Battery**
Keeping your battery charged is the biggest concern during the winter months
- **Anti-freeze**
Have it checked and don't use water as a substitute
- **Thermostat**
- **Spark Plugs**
- **Fuel Filter**
- **Drive belt**
Make sure all belts are in good condition without cracks
- **Heater**



Angel Tree enters 11th year of giving

By Shane Sherwood
Senior Reporter

For some people from the community, Christmas might happen thanks to angels.

The Campus Activities Office and the Panhellenic Council sponsor the Angel Tree, which is a way for students to give back to the community by adopting a less-fortunate individuals or families from the community for the holidays.

Currently there are 49 angels on the tree, and each angel represents an individual, Panhellenic Council

President Amanda Galaske said.

"Angel Tree is a way for families who are less fortunate to ask for things they may need this season or for their children to be able to open a gift on Christmas morning," Galaske said. "These are individuals or families within Maryville or the surrounding areas."

This is the 11th year for the Angel Tree on campus. The Greek community started it, Volunteer Services Director Amy Nally said.

"The Greek organizations were looking for a way to give back to

the community," Nally said. "The Greek organizations are why the Angel Tree came to Northwest."

Angels for the tree are compiled through the Head Start Program, Nally said. Any student wanting to adopt an angel from the tree, they should go to the Campus Activities Office located on the second floor of the J.W. Jones Student Union.

Another way for individuals to adopt an angel is by stopping by the table located on the first floor of the Student Union between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

The gifts for the angels must be turned in under the tree by noon on Dec. 8.

"The Angel Tree is a great opportunity for the Northwest family and Greek organizations to support the families of the community to help them have a wonderful Christmas," Nally said.

The Angel Tree also helps make the holiday season cheerful, Galaske said.

The items the angels are asking for range, from bedding to toiletries, she said.

"The angels list things from

needs to wants such as movies and clothes," Galaske said. "Simple items can make a huge difference to those who may be less fortunate."

The tree is important for many reasons, Galaske said. It is a way to give back to needy families of the community.

"The holiday season is about giving and what better way than to make those in need smile, even if it is simple," Galaske said.

For more information about the Angel tree, call the Campus Activities office at 562-1226.

Maryville churches, organizations offer numerous philanthropic opportunities

By Lisa Houtchens
University News Editor

First United Methodist Church will have a warmth tree where you can donate hats, mittens and socks to the church to be given to family's in need, for more information about donations call 582-4821.

St Gregory Catholic Church will participate in the Angel Tree for families at Children's and Family Center of northwest

Missouri and Hospice and Children living in the Maryville area with parents incarcerated out of town.

The St. Gregory Catholic School will have kindergartners participating in 'Toys for Tots' and Dec. 16 will go to Nodaway Nursing Home to give homemade cards to the residents and gifts for more information call 582-3833.

Community Services of Nodaway county has 'Adopt a Family' this charity is

for lower income families and the Angel Tree for more information, call Kim Stockwell at 582-3113.

Civic Women of Nodaway County have placed barrels in many Maryville stores for 'Toys for Tots.' Community members can donate new toys for children in Nodaway County.

The Ministry Center of Maryville serves lower income families in Nodaway county that meet poverty guidelines. The Ministry

Center is a food bank and clothing room for Nodaway County.

Order of Omega Sorority is doing a book drive at Northwest for Toys for Tots, Dec. 1-5. They are asking for new books to drop off on campus at the Station and the Office of Campus Activities.

Panhellenic Council is participating in the annual Angel Tree to help lower income families in Nodaway County. You can pick up Angels at the Campus Activities.



photo by seih cook | chief photographer

PRE-MEDICINE MAJOR Isoma Nwadozi, 21, who is from Nigeria, will be among the dozens of international students who plan to spend their winter breaks this year in Maryville.

Student prepares for on-campus break

By Evan Young
Editor in Chief

As a student leader on campus, one of his responsibilities is to help fellow international students get adjusted to life at Northwest.

But in about a week, he'll find himself readjusting to campus once the University clears out for the holidays.

Isoma Nwadozi, 21, a pre-medicine major from Africa, will spend his first Christmas in Maryville — one of about 100 international students who will remain on campus during the month-long winter break, according to the IIC.

"I haven't talked to any friends yet," he said about who else is staying on campus, adding that he expects the time to be "pretty dry."

This is Nwadozi's third year as a Bearcat. The past two breaks he's traveled to Toronto, Ontario to spend the time off with relatives. But with only a year left at Northwest, the time has come for Nwadozi to start thinking ahead to medical school. So he's decided to remain on campus and study for the Medical College Admission Test, a standardized exam that

paves the way for student to enter medical school.

Hitting the books won't be the only thing Nwadozi will do over the break. A member of Residential Life's BRIDGE (Building Relationships and Integrating Diverse Growth Experiences) program, Nwadozi said he'll have time to make some extra money as part of the residence hall break staff, where he'll patrol the mostly empty buildings to make sure they're safe.

Although the number changes from year to year, typically about a third of Northwest's international student population remains on campus for various reasons during the winter break, said Jeffrey Foot, director of international affairs and the English as a Second Language program.

Traditionally, Nwadozi says his family's Christmas celebration — both those in Abuja, Nigeria and Canada — resemble that of most families. In Nigeria, he, his parents and three younger siblings attend Catholic Mass, go to his grandmother's house for a "feast" and visit neighbors.

"By the end of the day all that's left is the constipation to follow,"

he joked.

Nwadozi came to Northwest in fall 2006. He admitted to being homesick at first, like most new students. But he keeps in constant touch with his family. Sunday was his 21st birthday, and he received well wishes from loved ones at home.

Now, with the BRIDGE program, along with encouraging students to experience different cultures, he gives advice to other international student who may be missing their families.

"(I tell them) it's tough. It's hard to be away from the ones you love and care about and who love and care about you, but you come here to get an education," Nwadozi said. "It is hard, but after a while it gets easier. Now you're getting a brighter future up here."

Nwadozi wants to become a doctor — right now a cardiologist, preferably. He listed a couple locations where he'd like to open practice, including Canada and Nigeria. He just has one stipulation.

"If I got an offer to work in the United States, I wouldn't say no," he said. "But I don't like the Midwest; it's too cold. I'd want to move south."

Hallmark store holds holiday open house

By Lindsay Jacobs
Copy Editor

It's not too late to get in on the holiday festivities at Rod's Hallmark store in Maryville.

An open house will be held this Friday and Saturday at the store. Santa Claus will be present 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Those who walk in spin a wheel for prizes and discounts on merchandise.

The store held another open house in November, but preparation for the holiday season starts while most people are thinking of late summer activities.

A Hallmark ornament premiere is held each July. The store opens from midnight to 2 a.m. with about 30 people attending each year, store manager Lucy Waugh said. The true collectors start collecting at that time, she said.

The rest of the holiday merchandise comes in mid-September.

"It kind of depends on what they're looking for, but a lot of people start their shopping in mid-September," Waugh said.

Co-assistant manager Laura Dowden said working at the store during the holiday season really helps put her in the Christmas

spirit. During the season, employees help customers pick out ornaments and other Christmas merchandise for those on their shopping lists.

A lot of grandparents come in to buy ornaments for their grandchildren, Dowden said.

Waugh thinks it has to do with nostalgia that comes with many of the store's ornaments.

"It brings back a lot of memories that way," Waugh said.

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Friday and Saturday

Store Hours
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12 p.m. to 6 p.m. - Sunday
*during the holiday season

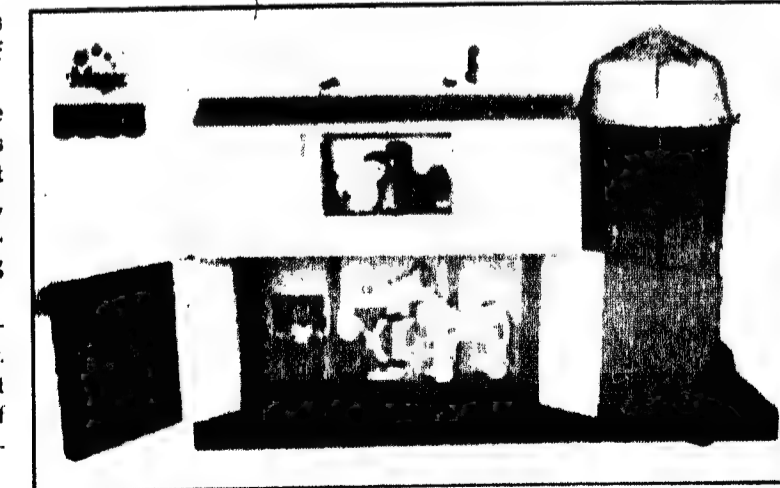


photo courtesy of | hallmark.com

THE PLAY FAMILY Farm Ornament is the top-selling ornament at Rod's Hallmark this year. Hallmark ornaments become available in July, when some people start collecting.

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The Stroller

Your Man is mad at Santa

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Well, I'll let you decide on the sassiness factor.

You see, I've had enough of a certain fat, so-called "jolly" old man's crock of B.S. Not unlike George W. Bush, he's done a pretty poor job of giving me what I want. Yet unlike the presidency, an area of our society where change is supposedly on the horizon, I highly

doubt the one they call Santa Claus will deliver any change to my life this year.

Every year for the past five years, my wish list has been the same. Yet "St. Nick," "Kris Kringle," "Wilford Brimley" or whatever name you wanna give him, has constantly ignored each and every item on it. So this year, having had my fill of it all, I'm sending him an extra special "letter" - known to most people as "hate mail." And you're in luck, loyal readers; I'm giving you a special sneak peek into my Stroller stocking. Here's what I'll be dropping down Santa's chimney this oh-so-special Christmas season:

Dear Santa,

What. The. Hell.

For the past five Dec. 25's, you've handed me nothing but the broken end of the candy cane. I work my butt off every day of every year to be the nicest person - we're talking Mother Teresa nice, now - this planet, wait, this UNIVERSE has ever known. And in return I've only asked for two simple gifts: a gift certificate to Dollar General and "Kazaam" on DVD.

Pretty easy stuff, right? You can make it happen, right? Well listen up, fatso: you haven't. And I've had just about enough. Do you have any freaking clue what effect a stocking full of things like antique paper weights and "If I Did It" by O.J. Simpson has on someone? Obviously not, because throwaways like those seem to be the best you can come up with.

And don't try to give me some lame excuse like "the economy is bad." Shove it - it's irrelevant. You're supposed to be magical, for God's sake. You have a deer with a glowing, radioactive nose leading your sleigh. Somehow you were able to amass hundreds of dwarfs to perform countless hours of manual labor for you. You make drops at billions of homes within the space of 24 hours without the use of steroids, speed or Starbucks.

There's no reason for giving me the shaft every year.

So here's what's gonna happen this time around, you morbidly obese fool: I'm done being nice. You've seen my track record. You know the deal. I'm watching you this year, and I have supporters. You'd better have bargain shopping and Shag on your brain when you slide down my chimney this Christmas. Because if you don't, well, let's just say the brown stuff in the cookies you shove down your throat at certain residences may or may not be chocolate chips, if you catch my drift.

Got it? Great. Thanks, Santa, for all your hard work bringing joy to everyone on this rock but me. I'd like to close by lifting and remixing one of your own quotes to capture the sheer jolliness I've received just by writing this letter to you.

"Merry Christmas to all, and to Santa, YOU'VE BEEN WARNED."

Regards,
Your Man

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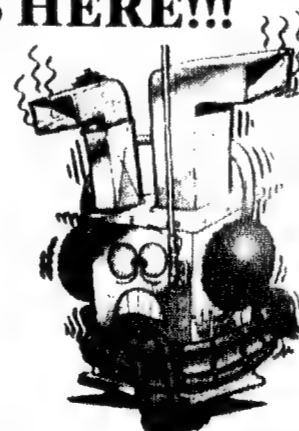
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Back for the very 4th time



'Cats get 4th chance at national championship

By Marcus Meade
Sports Editor

The Bearcats have been there before, three times actually.

When Northwest takes the field in Florence Ala. Saturday against Minnesota-Duluth, they'll do so with experience on their side.

"They're just a solid football team," coach Mel Tjeerdsma said. "They're balanced. They play good defense. They're a lot like us in that respect."

The Bulldogs may be a good team, but they've never played for a national championship before. They did upset two teams just to get in the game including the No. 1 ranked team in the country, Grand Valley.

Minnesota-Duluth uses a balanced offensive attack much like the 'Cats, Tjeerdsma said. That and a weak conference schedule may have contributed to their huge turnaround from a team that went 4-6 last season to a team that's gone 14-0 so far this year.

"They've got a good power back," senior center Matt Nelson said. "He gets downhill well. They run a lot of screens well too."

Nelson and the Northwest offensive line ran over the North Alabama defense last weekend, opening holes for running back LaRon Council to pick up 139 yards and four touchdowns.

The Bulldogs will present a different look than North Alabama, Nelson said. Minnesota-Duluth won't be as quick as the Lions were last week, but

they have other attributes.

"They run a 30-front," Nelson said. "They're not as quick, but they're going to play sound football with good technique."

While Nelson gears up for his last collegiate football game, another senior just hopes he can play.

Cornerback Brandon Clayton was sidelined last week with a knee injury, but as of Tuesday was confident he would play in the national championship. If he couldn't, that would make this the second championship game in a row he's missed due to injury.

If Clayton is able to play, he'll be a big part of stopping a powerful Bulldog offense that torched California (Penn.) for 45 points last weekend.

Leading Minnesota-Duluth is quarterback Ted Schlafke who's thrown for 2,890 yards, 33 touchdowns and eight interceptions.

"We just have to get pressure," Clayton said. "If we can stop the run, force them to throw and make the quarterback run and take away his first and second reads, we'll be all right."

Clayton and the Northwest defense have been all right so far this season, getting better and better as the year progressed.

"I think everybody's taken it upon themselves to do their job and make plays," Clayton said. "Last year, we

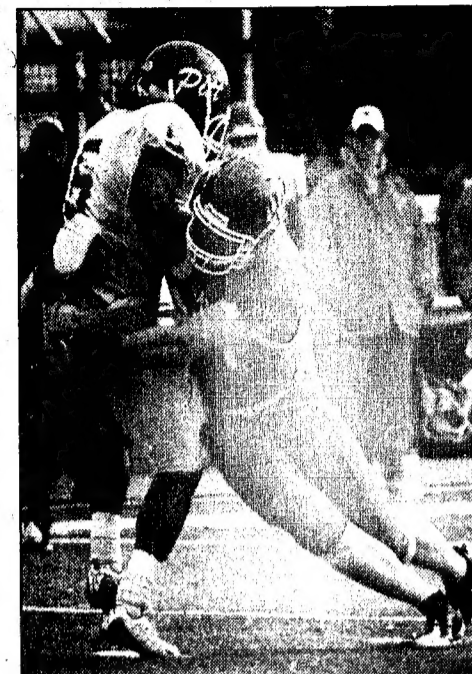


photo by seith cook | chief photographer
JUNIOR DEFENSIVE END Sean Paddock brings down a Pitt State ballcarrier at the line of scrimmage.

beat Grand Valley and we kind of went down there with the idea we're going to win. This year, I think we're a little more focused, more humble."

For guys like Clayton and Nelson, this is their fourth and last shot at a national championship and quite possibly the last football game of their careers.

"You hate to lose," Nelson said of his last three trips to Florence, Ala. "You don't want to lose because this is it for me."

Everybody's got a price Everybody's gotta pay

By Brian Bosiljevac
University Sports Editor

Here at the Northwest Missourian we want to make sure you are only spending your hard earned money on the best of things. We calculated an average list of things you will need to make your national championship trip to Florence, Ala. perfect.

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We don't want you racking up your own mileage on this 715-mile road trip.

Gas- \$84
It's going to be a long trip, around 12 hours, so just be thankful the gas prices have dropped a little lately.

Food- \$40
Once you get to Alabama you have to get some down south barbecue. I found a place for you guys that sounds to die for. Big Daddy's Bar-B-Q, need I say more.

Tickets- \$20
Are you trying to tell me I can't get in with my Bearcat Card? I thought that thing was accepted everywhere.

Hotel- \$40
Enjoy your stay at the Budget Inn. This place got some terrible reviews online. It sounds like a pretty dirty place but suck it up, you're only staying one night.

Alcohol- \$34
Well, I don't know what you guys are into, but after a long week of finals I'm going to grab a 30 pack of Busch and fifth of Jager. If you are short on cash and are really looking to have a good time you could always sleep in your car. Forget the Budget Inn, that's another \$40.

Grand Total- \$263
It's pretty expensive, but hey, get a job. The Missourian is looking for some photographers if anyone is interested.



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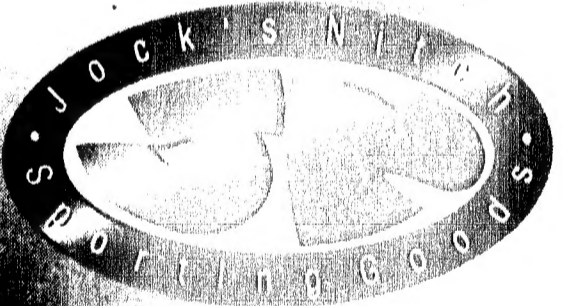
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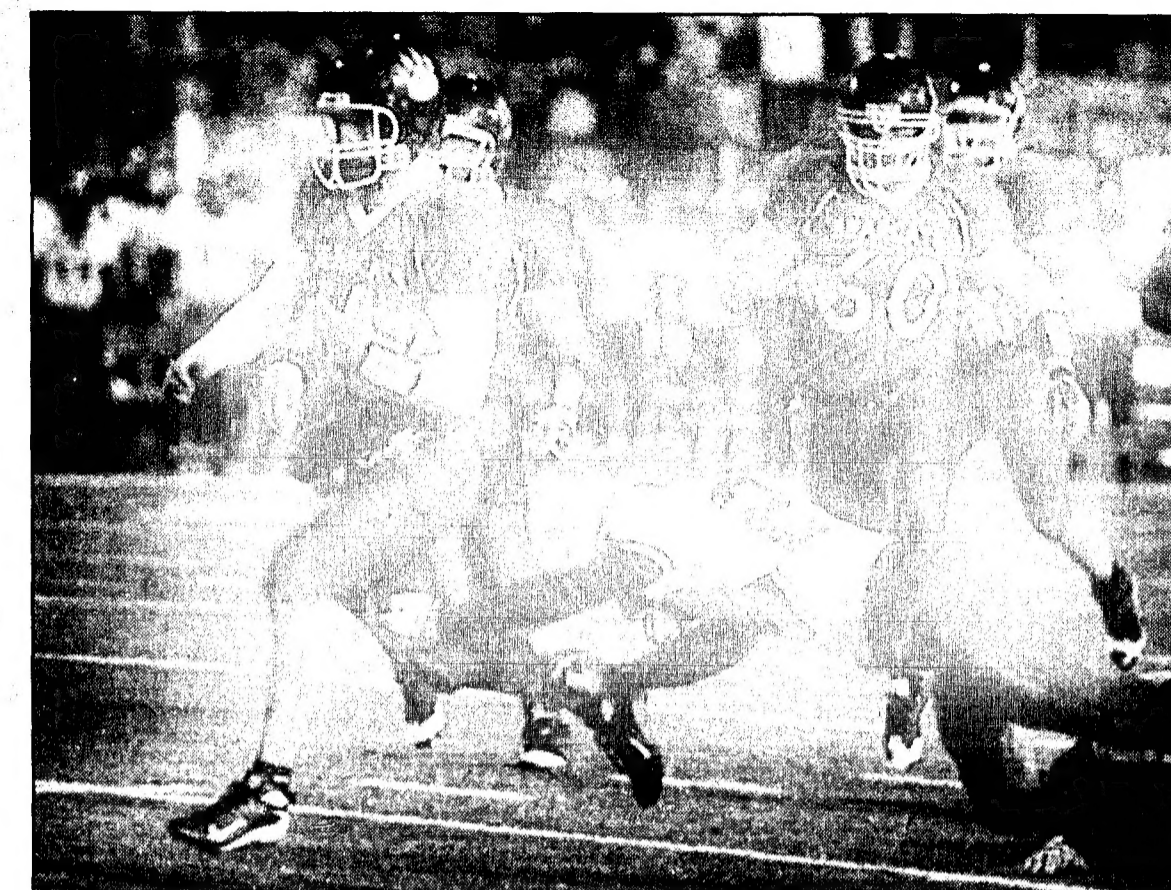
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SENIOR QUARTERBACK JOEL Osborn takes off down the field past North Alabama defenders before pitching the ball back to running back LaRon Council.

Team not dwelling on 3 title losses

By Christopher Woodland
Community Sports Editor

Every fall, 156 Division II teams fight for the chance to take a trip to Florence, Ala., and play for a national championship. The Northwest Bearcats have made that trip more times than anyone in the last 11 years.

When the 'Cats step onto the turf at Braly Stadium in Florence Ala. Saturday, it will be the sixth time in 11 years they've played in the Division II championship game. The 'Cats could also become the first to lose four consecutive championship games, a streak only matched in the football world by the Buffalo Bills of the 1990s.

"We don't think about that," junior safety Myles Burnside said.

Each of the last three years, players from the 154 other Division II teams have sat home and watched the 'Cats scratch and claw for a championship, just to come up just short each time.

Each of the games has left a different sort of frustration for Northwest fans, players and coaches alike.

"It was just a lot of disappointment," Northwest head coach Mel Tjeerdma said. "For me it's more disappointing for the kids because I know how hard they worked. The fact that Northwest has won it twice is kind of a burden on their shoulders, because everyone expects to go down win it."

In 2005, the 'Cats arrived in Florence as underdogs after becoming the first team to win every playoff game on the road and came within one play of upsetting Grand Valley State.

In 2006 the 'Cats turned the ball over five times and then Grand Valley State scored a late go-ahead score for the second year in a row, and placed the only blemish on the 'Cats' 14-1 record.

"In 2006 we all thought we were going to get Grand Valley, and we just made too many mistakes," Tjeerdma said.

Northwest finally disposed of Grand Valley in the 2007 semifinals at Bearcat Stadium, only to surrender a 14-3 second half lead, as Valdosta State scored the game-winning touchdown with less than a minute left.

Now the 'Cats are back with another chance to bring home the championship.

"Every team has its own identity and I think that's one of the reasons why we've been able to bounce back," Tjeerdma said. "We start over, we don't dwell on what's happened before."

The inability to achieve that central goal of winning the championship may have contributed to the 'Cats dominance over the last four years, because the team hasn't accomplished its main goal yet.

"One of the toughest things we've had was in '99, after winning the championship in '98, to get the focus off of that and get ready for '99," Tjeerdma said. "That was tougher than to come back after losing it, because there's a comfort zone there."

Starting with the late-season surge by the 2005 "Road Dogs," Northwest has compiled a 43-5 record over its last 48 games, and only lost at home once in that time.

Another reason for optimism is

the Pittsburg State game three weeks ago in Maryville. After blowing Pitt State out of Arrowhead Stadium earlier this season, the 'Cats had to rely on a last-minute 15-yard touchdown pass from Joel Osborn to Kendall Wright for a 38-35 victory.

"I think that was a case where lot of our youth caught up with us," Tjeerdma said. "I think it was a very good wake-up call for us and for our younger kids especially."

They followed that game by holding an explosive Abilene Christian team to its lowest point total of the year, and then defeating No. 5 North Alabama 41-7 to advance to this year's championship game.

With the younger players on the team learning on the fly, and strong senior leadership guiding the way, Tjeerdma feels good about the mind-set of his players.

"I think they're focused, and they have an ability to just keep everything in perspective," Tjeerdma said. "(The seniors) have done a tremendous job. You could probably start with Ozzy (Joel Osborn) as much as anybody. He just says 'OK we won, now lets move on.'"

For seniors like Osborn, Wright and offensive lineman Reid Kirby, they will not have any more chances to move on toward another national championship game.

"We've learned from our mistakes, and we're going to approach things a lot different when we get down to Alabama," Kirby said.

Unlike Kirby, Burnside has another year but feels anything less than a trophy this year is a failure.

"The goal is to win, and anything less than that is a disappointment," he said.

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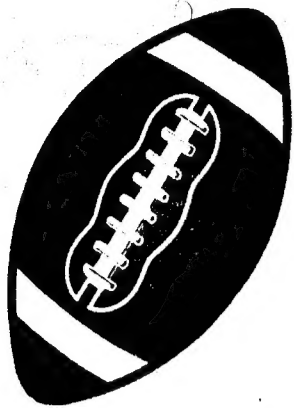
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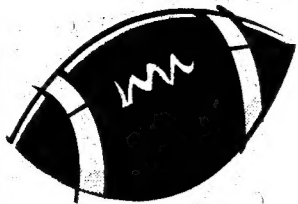
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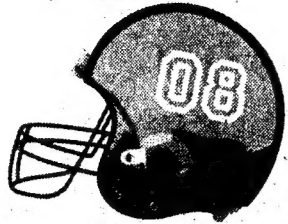


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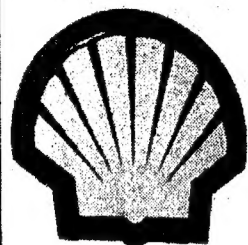
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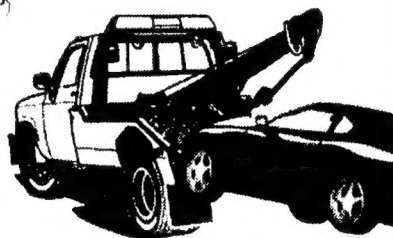


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